

# EXCEL LETTER

News of EXCEL TECC • Mayfield Excel Technical Education Career Consortium

Serving School Districts:

- Aurora
- Beachwood
- Chagrin Falls
- Mayfield
- Orange
- Richmond Heights
- Solon
- South Euclid-Lyndhurst
- West Geauga
- Willoughby-Eastlake

Vol. XXII No. 2

Spring 2022

## Director's Notes

by Nate Bishko

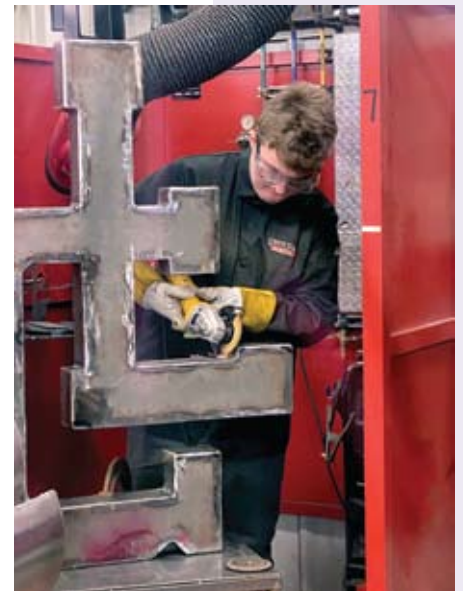
Wow! It seems as if this school year was on the fast lane all year as we close out another fantastic year for our Excel TECC programs and students. Recently, we were so happy to be able to have our annual Senior Send Off celebration in person for our graduates. The event, held on May 11, 2022 at Landerhaven Party Center, was a beautiful catered luncheon for our students in which our teachers awarded completion certificates to nearly 500 graduates. Many of our seniors are heading off to some of the best colleges and universities in Ohio and the country, while others are parlaying their internships/ apprenticeships into immediate employment in their career technical pathway. In addition, we are so proud of our graduating seniors as they have earned \$12,128,811 in scholarships! As we head into the summer, our seniors should be very excited about their final year and the opportunities that lie ahead. I also want to welcome our incoming class of juniors. In fact, this incoming group of 544 students is one of the largest classes of career technical education students we have ever had! Please make sure you are checking your emails for communication from your program teacher. I will also send out a summer letter with program start dates, orientation information and other pertinent items. With that, I want to wish everyone a restful, relaxing and safe summer-you all have earned it!

## Program Power

### Willoughby Welding

by Mike Kirchhevel and Mark Stevens, Instructors

As the students are finishing up their senior year, many have moved on to more advanced manufacturing processes. This year we have had over 60% of our students out working in the welding industry. In addition to this internship, we currently have other senior students working on other projects for their local community. Eric Morrison is seen here creating an all metal sign that will be displayed in his home school of Chagrin Falls. Eric did all the design, welding and finish work before it was sent out to be powder coated. Students are interning at multiple different companies in the local area including: Swagelok (Jamie Hayes),



...continued on page 3

## SKILLS USA WINNERS...on to Nationals!!



It was a triumphant return to in-person competition in Columbus after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The Excel TECC team included 41 students from CADD Engineering, Construction Trades, Information Technology & Programming, Interactive Media and Medical Technologies. 24 of the 41 members earned State Championships including 11 Gold Medalists who have qualified to advance to the SkillsUSA National Championships at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) June 20-24, 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia. Award winners include:

### CADD Engineering

Bronze Team/ Additive Manufacturing - \*Joey Dilella & \*Lawrence Huston  
Gold Team/ Showcase-Industrial & Engineering Tech - \*Emma Burkey, \*Jillian Gambino & \*Ashton Gradmonski

...continued on page 13



### Allied Health

by Danielle Blood, Instructor

Wrapping up the 2022 school year!

The Allied Health junior class completed their NATCEP program with the Ohio Department of Health. The following juniors completed their classroom and clinical hours and all passed their licensure exam!

\*Gianna Biondolillo; \*Holly Davis; \*Juliana Gamiere; \*Rishad Johnson; \*Gurkiran Natt; \*Mya Thornton; \*Anesha Wilson; \*Ebony Wright; \*Zoey Zarzecnny

The following Allied Health seniors completed their Medication Technician classroom and clinical hours and will register to take their licensure exam for STNA [State-Tested Nursing Assistant] with the Board of Nursing over the summer:

\*Tracy Tanner; \*Paige Foss; \*Makenzie Nance; \*Ananda Frazier



### Welcome New Exce**l** TECC Administrator



#### Robin Hopkins

A proud Cleveland Schools graduate, Robin Hopkins spent 15 years teaching in Euclid before joining the administrative ranks at Euclid High School.

Before becoming the Director at NCI-Willoughby, Robin enjoyed two years as the principal of Lorain High and then three years as the principal at Willoughby South High. Throughout her twenty-seven-year career, Robin's passion has been to serve her students and staff by providing the environment they need to be successful and thrive.

[Note: Robin joined Exce**l** TECC in August 2021, but this notice missed the Fall 2021 Exce**l**Letter.]

### Auto Technology: On the Build

by Nathan Inbody, Instructor and Sherry Ebbert, Project Assistant

Another busy school year is winding down in Auto Technology.

Students have had the chance to work on a wide variety of vehicles throughout the year learning valuable hands-on real world skills. This year we started on a new shop project vehicle that we will be working on for the next few school years. We acquired a 1979 Jeep CJ5 and started disassembly for restoration but realized the Jeep was beyond repair so we found a nicer 1982 Jeep CJ5 to restore instead. We are excited to have formed a partnership with KBS Coatings which has provided us with engine and exhaust paint. Next year we will continue to tackle more of the mechanical restoration. You can follow our build on instagram @nciautotech.

Many seniors took advantage of our internship opportunity and became



Welcoming the new 1982 Jeep CJ5 to NCI Auto Tech!



employed in industry which has helped them develop their future plans. We had students working in local car dealerships, independent repair shops, lawn and garden equipment repair, and aviation.

We look forward to providing these valuable experiences to seniors next year.



TOP: Seniors Joe, Adam, Aaron, Deacon, Justin, Jack, Tyler and Hayden involved in the Jeep CJ5 restoration.

CENTER: Restored to original AMC blue!

BOTTOM: Thanks to KBS Coatings for providing us with our engine and exhaust paint.



Mayfield Excel Technical Education Career Consortium

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Kay Vincent, Editor



**Welding...continued from pg 1**

Buyers Products (James Brodowski, AJ Pavic, Anthony Paladino, Adam Killian), NASA (Carlos Gilestra) Thor Hammer Works (Igor Sheludkov), E&J Precision Machine (Miles Haluszka). Finally, seniors Anthony Ferrante and Angel Snyder were both recently hired to begin a robust internship program called S.O.A.R at Component Repair Technologies which will lead to full time employment, paid training and tuition reimbursement. The rest of our students that were not our working have plans to join the military, college or have further education already in mind. Our second semester internship opportunity has allowed students to earn a wage while learning to improve their industry skills all while finishing high school academic requirements and staying a member of our welding course. We are quite proud of all of our senior students this year!

The juniors are progressing on track. Many of our junior welding students have already passed the AWS welding certification process which typically doesn't even happen until senior year. Students have worked on perfecting their welding skills this year and have also had experience working on small projects including: trailers, car demolitions, smokers and landscape equipment. All students and staff are looking forward to next year and working in the community more on projects like the Eastlake Skate Park. As we close out the year, we are just finishing up an "Eastlake" sign similar to the Cleveland signs seen at many locations through Cleveland.



**Mayfield Cosmetology**

*by Maryanne Hummell and Debby Kall, Instructors*



As the school year comes to a close we want to wish our seniors the best of luck as they prepare to take their State Board of Cosmetology Exam. The students began testing at the end of April.

Our current junior students have been in the process of securing internships for the next school year. We will be going out to visit and complete an orientation with the different salons where the students will be interning. The students are also in the process of completing their certification test so that they are eligible to work in the customer clinic next school year.

We are excited to welcome our incoming juniors next school year. We have a full class of incoming future Cosmetologists. Welcome to the class of 2024!!!

The customer clinic will be open next school year starting in September. At the start of next school year we will have an official date for the opening of the customer clinic. The juniors moving up to senior class status are very excited to be able to start next school year using all the skills they have been perfecting this school year.

Thanks to everyone for all your support this school year!!!

**Culinary Arts**

*by Stephanie Czech, Senior Instructor*



If we were asked to use one word to describe the year our Culinary Arts students had, it would have to be "exciting" due to being back to 100% face-to-face instruction with all of our students.

Our Junior class prepped, prepared, and served a deliciously *successful* Grand Buffet on May 12th. We had four students compete during competition season, which they did very well. All students earned Gold at Regionals, which allowed them to complete at the State level. During State competition, Marta Pike from Willoughby-South earned Gold in Garde Manger and placed 3rd in the State, Sydney Truong from Solon earned Gold in Culinary Arts and placed 6th in the State and Seth Peterson from Willoughby-South earned Silver in Culinary Arts.

We are proud to announce that every one of our seniors *successfully* earned their ProStart Certification of Achievement, which is recognized by the National Restaurant Association and earns them credits towards post-secondary culinary arts programs.

Spark your taste buds and have a relaxing, delectable summer!

**WINNERS' CIRCLE**

*LOOK for our Winners' Ribbons throughout this newsletter!!*



## CADD Students Earn SkillsUSA State Championship, Bronze Medals

by Craig Schmidt, Instructor

CADD students experienced another great year! Several events that were canceled - or significantly modified - due to the pandemic were back in person.

CADD juniors were invited to participate in the L.E.A.F. Umbrella Project, sponsored by the Lake/Geauga Educational Assistance Foundation. Students from area high school art classes decorate umbrellas to be eventually auctioned. CADD students from our program and the Lakeshore Compact CADD program designed the fixtures to display the umbrellas at Great Lakes Mall. Students had to focus on safety and durability, as well as preventing damage to the umbrella handles. Scholarships were awarded to the art students, as well as CADD students for the top designs. Our Excel TECC CADD juniors swept the scholarship awards, with Emma Burkey (Mayfield) winning the top spot and a \$1000 scholarship. Second-place winners Jillian Gambino (Mayfield) and Isaiah Jackson (Orange) split a \$750 scholarship, while a \$500 scholarship was awarded to Maddie Bogus (Solon).

Speaking of scholarships, CADD seniors earned a total of \$959,322 in scholarships this year. While scholarships in some professions declined due to the pandemic, scholarships in engineering and architecture have remained strong.

The SkillsUSA Ohio Championships were held in-person in Columbus again, and seven CADD students competed in the event. Lola Presered (South) earned fourth place in the Architectural Drafting contest. The senior team of Lawrence Huston (Orange) and Joey Dilella (Mayfield) earned bronze medals in the Additive Manufacturing contest. This is Lawrence's second bronze medal in the event, making Lawrence CADD's only two-time medal winner at the state level. The junior team of Emma Burkey, Jillian Gambino (both of Mayfield) and Ashton Gradomski (North) won gold medals and the SkillsUSA Ohio State Championship in the Career Pathways Showcase - Industrial and Engineering Technology contest. The team earned a perfect score of 1000/1000 points! Next up for our champions is the SkillsUSA National Championships in Atlanta in June.

In May, CADD and Construction Trades celebrated their collaboration at the Construction Trades Open House. This year's project involved the design and construction of "The Resort at Excel TECC". Several hundred visitors toured the project and had an opportunity to speak with the students who made it all happen. Now in our tenth year of collaboration, this project gives students from both programs a truly authentic learning experience. The open house brought together several Excel TECC programs that had shops and spaces through-



ABOVE: The CADD junior team of Ashton, Emma and Jillian are the 2022 SkillsUSA Ohio State Champions in the Career Pathways Showcase/Industrial and Engineering Technology contest.



LEFT: The CADD senior team of Joey and Lawrence earned bronze medals in the SkillsUSA Ohio State Championship

onship Additive Manufacturing contest.

BELOW: CADD juniors earned scholarships in the L.E.A.F. Umbrella Project Engineering Challenge: Emma - \$1000; the team of Jillian and Isaiah - \$750; and Maddie Bogus - \$500.

out the project - a truly collaborative project! CADD and Construction Trades students began the year brainstorming ideas for the theme using Design Thinking; CADD students then created designs and prepared construction documents for Construction Trades' use. So, kids brainstormed the concept, designed and documented the project, and built the project!

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**CADD**...continued from previous page

As you can see, things are getting back to normal with the revival of the in-person competitions and our collaborations.

See what's happening in CADD by following our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram feeds @exceltec-cadd .

LEFT SIDE PHOTOS: FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:  
-CADD students present their powerpoint on the Resort collaborative project.

-Blueprints show construction plans developed by CADD students for Construction Trades students to follow.

-Exterior of two-story building



RIGHT SIDE PHOTOS: FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:

-Pool and deck leisure area

-Putt-putt on left, entrance to pool area in center, and walkway from guest rooms on right

-Two interior rooms - the Florist and the Cosmetology Salon



## Construction Trades - Building Collaboration

by Rick Zivny, Instructor

We would like to thank everyone who attended our open house on May 6th - the students really enjoyed having you. The Juniors are busy finishing up the school year on the demo stage of our project while the Senior students walked the stage on May 11th and received their certificates of completion. Good luck Seniors on your future endeavors and I look forward hearing from all of you - thank you. Mr Zivny.



## Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation

by Justin Murphy CSCS, Instructor

The Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation Healthcare Program had an amazing year leading to the graduation of our fourth class of ESSR students. This group of students is incredibly special. Throughout their time in our CTE program these students have demonstrated resilience, and an unmatched ability to adjust to adversity and changes - which may be one of the most defining characteristics of our students as they develop into productive working professionals and community members.

The class of 2022 is one the highest performing groups ESSR has had, achieving remarkable academic, athletic, and career-related successes while raising the standard for learning in our program. As an instructor, it has been awesome to see these students grow as individuals and as young exercise science professionals following their interests. Most importantly though, was seeing the relationships this group of seniors built together. Their genuine care for one another and passion for the field made teaching and learning a joy everyday.

This school year was highlighted by several key events and achievements. Eleven ESSR juniors joined the ten ESSR seniors in the National Technical Honor Society. Seniors completed the AMCA Physical Therapy Technician Certification, and our largest group ever will take the ACSM Personal Training Certification over the next few weeks. After working through some challenges posed by Covid-19, we re-established our internship program, and this group of seniors completed some of the most challenging and extensive internship opportunities in our program to date. ESSR also added several business partnerships to our program, and students in our program

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TOP: ESSR Seniors at Old School Iron Gym - L to R: Markell, Jeremiah, Hailey, Shannon, Grant, Michala, Meghan, Elena, Gwen, Kaylee, Anabella, Madison, Monique

BELOW:

FAR LEFT - L to R: Jeremiah, Anabella, and Hailey at the Construction Trades Open House

CENTER: Emma

FAR RIGHT: L to R: Grant, Elena, Gwen, Shannon, Hailey



**Exercise Science**...continued from previous page

were able to visit college exercise science programs at multiple universities around northeast Ohio. This year seven seniors were state qualifiers for HOSA competition. Additionally, students completed multiple special/independent learning projects using our program's new force plate and velocity-based training technology. This specialized sports science technology has been important for our students to be exposed to, allowing for greater understanding and application of concepts, experimentation, and ultimately giving our students an advantage as they prepare for college and professional pursuits.

We again have many people to thank for their help with our program this year, but we would especially like to thank: the parents of our students, Mr. Bishko and the Excel TECC team, SEL Superintendent Dr. Linda Reid, Dr. Lorraine Fuller, Mr. Karl Williamson, and Ms. Sarah Ball. Thank You!



**Medical Technologies**

by Megan Mauceri and Erin Manypenny, Instructors

It has been a fun and exciting year in the Medical Technologies program! We welcomed a new teacher, Mrs. Manypenny, and I (Megan Mauceri) was able to take on a new role as the director of Medical Technologies and the Internship program. We were also able to restart our popular Internship Program. The senior students were excited to start their internship journey in the Fall and Spring semesters of school. We were fortunate to have students complete their internships at University Hospitals of Cleveland, Mayfield Pet Hospital, Meadowlands Vet Clinic, Parker and Strem Orthodontics and the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's office. Students were also given the opportunity to observe in the University Hospitals Outpatient Physical Therapy Department and the Cardiac Catheterization Lab. It was exciting to watch the students grow as they progressed on their ten week internships.

Medical Technologies students were able to welcome guest speakers back into the Innovation Center. Both junior and senior students remained engaged while interacting with the respected medical professionals. Our guest speakers included: Dr. Joseph Felo, DO who is a Forensic Pathology Specialist in Cleveland, OH and has over 29 years of experience in the medical field; Cleveland Clinic Neurosurgeon Dr. Pablo Recinos who has been intricate in the development of new and innovating surgical techniques for those with various neurological conditions; and Dr. Aaron Hamilton Chief Medical Officer of the Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest Hospital, who led COVID-19 response efforts from a Quality and Safety perspective for the Cleveland Clinic Health System. Additional speakers were: Timothy Cicero, Firefighter / Paramedic for the Mayfield Village and Cleveland Heights fire department with over 15 years' experience as a first responder; Mrs. Ann Ebner, histologist for University Hospitals of Cleveland; and Jessica Crimaldi, NP and Advanced Practice Provider at the Cleveland Clinic. The junior students received Stop the Bleed training from the Mayfield Village Fire Department. We are thankful for all of the healthcare professionals who took time out of their day to provide our students with a unique educational experience.

Junior and senior students collaborated with close to 300 Mayfield Elementary kindergarten students on three separate days for our first Teddy Bear Clinic. During the Teddy Bear Clinic, Medical Technologies students were able to assist the Kindergarteners with taking their Teddy Bear's pulse, temperature and helping them bandage their teddy's injuries. 'Brad' our simulation mannequin became a quick hit with the students as they asked him various 'yes and no' questions. Who knew that Brad did not like Pizza? The students were also able to feel Brad's pulse and enjoy learning proper hand



ABOVE: Treated and recovering teddy bears

RIGHT: Senior Medical Technologies student Madilyn assisting the Kindergarten students in feeling a radial pulse



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## Medical Technologies...continued from previous page

washing techniques to help stop the spread of germs.

As the year winds to an end, it has been bittersweet as we said goodbye to the Graduating class of 2022. We look forward to watching our juniors walk through the door as seniors and meeting our new junior class. Mrs. Manypenny and I have some fun and exciting changes in store for both returning students and new students. We hope everyone has a relaxing and safe summer.

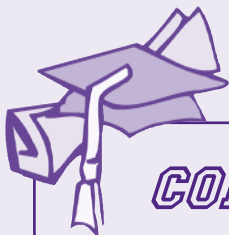


CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

-Guest speaker Timothy Cicero Firefighter/Paramedic of the Mayfield Village Fire Department with Med Tech students

-Guest speaker Dr. Pablo Recinos with Med Tech students

-Guest speaker Dr. Aaron Hamilton with Med Tech students



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE EXCEL TECC  
CLASS OF 2022!**

**WE WISH YOU ALL THE  
BEST IN YOUR FUTURE  
ENDEAVORS!**

**Congratulations to this year's  
seniors who earned over \$12.1  
million in scholarship awards.**



## THANK YOU

TO THE 200+ BUSINESSES  
AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE  
EXCEL TECC CONSORTIUM  
COMMUNITIES THAT  
SUPPORT EXCEL TECC  
PROGRAMS BY OFFERING  
STUDENTS INTERNSHIPS,  
MENTORSHIPS AND WORK  
EXPERIENCES; PARTICIPATE  
IN MOCK INTERVIEWS AND  
SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS;  
SERVE ON ADVISORY  
COMMITTEES AND OFFER  
SCHOLARSHIPS AND  
AWARDS.



**Environmental Education**

**Senior Send-Off and Awards Night:**

Watching our seniors graduate is a very special time for us to celebrate their accomplishments. Excel TECC Senior Send-Off is special because the students walk across the stage to receive their certificate that they have worked on for two years. During this year's SSO ceremony Graham Cruz was awarded the Excel TECC Directors Scholarship and Gavin Carrig was recognized as a NTHS member. Our GMEEC awards night is a wonderful evening when we announce our scholarship winners and celebrate their accomplishments as a family. We work alongside the students watching them grow and are very proud of them. These scholarships are awarded to students that go above and beyond, have a passion for the green industry, great grades, and good attendance.

Congratulations to our 2022 GMEEC Seniors!



ABOVE: Congrats GMEEC 2022 Seniors!

LEFT: Graham accepts award at Awards Night

**Follow us:**

 Gates Mills Environmental Education Center Alumni Association  
 @GMEEC\_students  
 gmeec\_students

**Spring Projects and GMEEC Open House & Plant Sale:**

Spring Open House and Plant Sale was a huge success this year. Customers came in for hanging baskets, annuals, perennials, and veggies needs. After much work caring and growing our plant material, we almost sold out completely on our first day of the sale!



ABOVE: Jovan helping customer at Spring Plant Sale

RIGHT: Mayfield Senior Commons Project



greenhouse and learned what plants need from the sun and all about our compost pile. We loved sharing our building with them and hope they had as much fun and learning as we did!



All Mayfield 1st graders visit GMEEC

Our spring is busy with volunteer opportunities and finishing our long list of customer work projects. Now that it has hopefully stopped snowing, our student veggie garden is getting planted. We cannot wait until school returns to reap the rewards.

**First Graders:**

The staff and students at GMEEC hosted all Mayfield 1<sup>st</sup> graders to tour and learn at our facility. Over 300 students learned about different careers in the green industry and landscape equipment. Every student planted a cutting and made a flower arrangement to take home. The groups went on a scavenger hunt to stop at the exciting things on our property. The nature walk ended with a visit to the pond which had salamanders, frog, and fish to see up close. They explored our

**Plant of the Month:**

Plant of the Month is a program offered by the Floriculture and Garden Operations class. Customers that sign up enjoy six months of beautiful plants/floral designs delivered right to your school if you are a staff member in the schools under the Excel TECC Consortium. All other customers must pick up at the

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## Environmental Education...continued from previous page

GMEEC location. Students are ready to demonstrate their floral skills and bring you smiles throughout the school year. Call Kym Judson for more information at (440) 995-7553. **Also special event flower orders can be ordered!!!**

### Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden

by *Kim Haydu, Instructor*



Why wouldn't you love to be at the Cleveland Botanical Garden and Holden Arboretum **EVERYDAY**? Our students enjoy working and learning in our extended classroom on the grounds of Holden Forest and Gardens. We complete every task that the horticulture staff are responsible for in the most beautiful gardens. We have started the growing season with many spring clean-ups, assisting with seasonal displays and plant sales, and planting new installs. See link to read the article featuring our program in the Forest gardens Magazine- Winter edition and come check out the students work and other various activities held at CBG and the Holden Arboretum!



Spring clean-up at Holden

<https://issuu.com/greatlakespublishing/docs/holdenforestsandgardenswinter2021-22>

### ACE and Floral Operations

by *Becky Gardner & Kim Judson, Instructors*

#### FFA State Floriculture Event:

FFA Floriculture contest events are a large part of our early spring learning. The groups study general knowledge, floral identification, and floral design of bud vases and corsages.

In April, Paige Perkins (South), Chloe Thomas (Brush), Chase Morton (South), and Arik Miler (Mayfield) competed at The Ohio State University ATI Campus at the State Floriculture Contest.



### WORK PROJECTS

Work projects are hands-on projects that the students complete to experience a career of landscaping as if they are employed with a real landscape company. Students edge, prune, mulch, do seasonal clean-up, etc in a two hour time frame. The teachers lead the class with the tasks given by the customer. The class brings the tools and equipment. The cost is a donation of \$75.00. Appointments for FALL season work will start to be scheduled the first day of school; spring work appointments will be scheduled after January 1st. Call for more information at (440) 995-7550.



LEFT: Alex, Zak and DJ on spring work project

### 2022-2023 Important Dates to Remember

Holiday Open House

Friday, December 9, 2022:

8am-6pm

Spring Open House & Plant Sale

Friday May 12, 2023

8am-6pm

### Landscape Construction & Design

by *Ed Tuhela, Instructor*

It seems like a long time ago, but at the Ohio High School Landscape Olympics held at ATI last November, the students bought home the Gold. Dylan Stafford and Nicholas Cochran earned the Gold Medal in the landscape maintenance event. Nicholas Cochran and Robert Sabol earned a Bronze Medal in the truck and trailer event. Robert Sabol (team captain), Ian Day and William



Hardy earned a Bronze Medal in the landscape installation event. The students put a lot of hard work into this competition and their efforts showed.

The seniors are all set to take on the world. They worked hard and have employment at many area companies including The Pattie Group, Home Depot, Kings Equipment, A & C Landscaping, and Earth & Water Scapes. One student will be joining the marines.

The Excel TECC Newsletter is always about our great students, but I need to add one quick note. I will be retiring after this school year. I want to thank every person out there for the success

of my program. Everyone had part in it. The thing that I will always miss is the kids. They are the reason we are here. Thank you and take care.



## Business Academy: Employers and Entrepreneurs

by Lisa Simon, Instructor

The Business Academy has had several guest speakers in the classroom and out-of-building excursions this past Spring. Students worked on a festival project in which they pretended to be the planning committee for the City of Willoughby. To kick off the presentations, former student entrepreneur Blake Parhamovich visited to talk about how young he was when he started, “Balloons by Blake” and how hard he works today to be successful. He credits Ms. Simon for pushing him to do things he was not necessarily comfortable with and letting others he trusts to help. Students were excited and found the information he shared on bookkeeping and planning a successful party for 4 year olds all the way up to 100 year olds to be useful. “Basically, everyone wants to be a kid! I tap into that desire with balloons,” says Blake.

Bill Whitman came into the classroom to discuss Matrix Technology and explained that you do not need to work on cars to be involved in the car industry. He showed students a shorter way to start making money that only involves around 10 weeks to complete. Students were thankful to see that the trade jobs are another possibility when they graduate.

Both the junior and senior class were able to go to John Carroll and participate in the Veale Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, “Think BIG Challenge.” Several students won prizes for their creative ideas. Tyler Krueger even won a pair of VR glasses that he was excited to check out!

Project i AM’s message: Don’t Wait to be GREAT! That is what 14 year old Jahkil Jackson from Chicago told the entire auditorium at University Schools during Celebrate Youth Entrepreneurship week at the Young Entrepreneur Institute. During the past five years, students have been able to step outside of the classroom to see successful entrepreneurs and how they worked their plan to be successful. The one constant, “Work Hard” and don’t wait for someone else to do it for you. One student claims that he understands that if you help someone out when they are down and out, your kindness will come back to you, two-fold.

To round out the school year, students in the Junior B.A. class set up an Employer Appreciation Job Fair for the seniors. The seniors were ecstatic over the decorations and all of their employers that showed up for them. Every student had a manager or co-worker, parent, or other-wise affiliated adult welcome the students as they walked into the classroom on May 3rd.



ABOVE: Balloons By Blake, former BA Student discusses how expensive and customizable clown shoes are in the Junior Business Academy.

BELOW: Bill Whitman presents to the students.



LEFT: Business Academy seniors welcome their employers.





## Information Technology & Programming

by Ron Suchy, Instructor

As we close up the 2021-22 academic year, we have a lot to look back on, and celebrate. Despite what was, for some, a new school year of significant challenges, the students of ITP '22 and especially ITP '23 made the return to full day, full-time learning a meaningful experience. The seniors, most of whom were personally in school at least half time in 2020-2021, entered this year flawlessly.

The senior class was very diverse with students choosing various Capstone Pathways including web-based marketing and gaming applications, crypto-currency management applications, and cloud-based business information systems. Seniors also worked in digital control, informational/instructional websites, telecommunications, and Wi-Fi and security systems. Lastly, IT was an industry area where the majority of professionals were still working from home the majority of the year as the pandemic continued to wind-down, which curtailed several of our traditional internship/field experience opportunities. Still, four of our seniors did work with Mr. Rob Poelking learning FileMaker Pro and each completing their own respective business information system scenario. ITP '22 had four teams developing interactive applications and video games, two of which employed Virtual Reality technologies for the first time. Several seniors chose to pursue certifications in the Cyber Security Triad of Security Pro, Ethical Hacker Pro and Cyber Defense Pro. We also had seniors who chose to pursue certifications in Networking and Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning technology.

Our ITP juniors learned the meaning of collaboration, teamwork and leadership as they learned programming logic using C++, Java and Python and then later

web design using HTML-5, CSS and JavaScript to build responsive and interactive websites for the standard PC display to the tablet to the mobile phone. All the members of ITP '23 also earned their first workforce-readiness certification by completing



BW Programming Team



ABOVE: Spencer and Artem with 2nd place award at CoolTech;

RIGHT: the CoolTech group



[L-R] Artem, Tigran and Ruslan - Silver Medal Team at SkillsUSA

and passing the Office Pro course.

Both classes enthusiastically participated in our CTSO, SkillsUSA and various competitive opportunities we had throughout the year. This included the RITE/BW Capture the Flag Contest, The Congressional App Challenge, Cool Tech Challenge and Showcase (Akaiya Abdullah, Lucas Ritossa and the team of Spencer McCrae & Art Zabarov), ACM/BW Programming Contest (juniors: Akaiya Abdullah, Matt McClellan, Ryan Waldman, and Nick Manzi) (seniors: Colin Lewis, Art & Rus Zabarov) and the SkillsUSA Ohio Championships. In Columbus at the SkillsUSA Ohio Championships, ITP Juniors Leon Zegrea and Dylan Wyss competed in the Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue Challenge. Juniors Nishi Patel and Nick Manzi competed in the Cyber Security contest. Tommy Reber competed in the challenging

Prepared Speech, leadership contest, and Jenny Sarkar earned the Bronze medal for a third place finish in the Extemporaneous Speaking contest. Also from the Junior ITP class, Akaiya Abdullah and Matt McClellan earned a third place Bronze medal in Web Design. Praveen Nair and Khalia Dogan competed in the Technical Computer Applications contest with Khalia earning an individual Gold medal for a first place finish, earning a bid to represent the State of Ohio in the SkillsUSA National Championships in June. ITP Junior Tigran Baghdasaryan, who teamed with two seniors, Artem and Ruslan Zabarov, earned the Silver

...continued on next page



**ITP**...continued from previous page

Medal for a second place finish in Career Pathways Showcase, where they presented their own Crypto-Currency wallet and management application.

ITP Senior Aidan Weise competed in the Information Technology Service contest while John Krych, Paul Miozzi comprised one Video Game Design Team and Alex Valerian with Kornel Gere comprised the second Video Game Design Team. Kornel and Alex earned SkillsUSA Ohio Gold and will head to nationals in June. Joining Alex, Kornel and Junior Khalia Dogan will be ITP Senior Colon Lewis who earned the Gold Medal in the SkillsUSA State Computer Programming contest.

As we headed into the closing weeks of school, ITP was proud to discover that we had five seniors in the Mayfield High School Top-40: Vivian Rayborn, Abhinav Siri, Adam Widina, Artem and Ruslan Zabarov. This is an amazing representation of how rigorous academics and career-technical programming can blend to provide amazing learning opportunities for all students willing to make the choice to pursue it. It is never a choice between advanced academic coursework and career-technical programs; it is always a choice of both, together. Lastly, our class award winners for 2021-22 are Akaiya Abdullah who earned the ITP Excel TECC Junior Departmental Excellence Award; Vivian Rayborn earning the ITP Excel TECC Senior Departmental Excellence Award; and finally two-time SkillsUSA State Champion, SkillsUSA National Champion, and Mayfield High School Top-40 member Ruslan Zabarov earned the Excel TECC ITP Outstanding Program Student at Senior Send Off.

As we prepare for the 2022-23 school year, we will continue to look for new learning opportunities for our students. If you, someone you know, or some business or organization is willing to consider providing occupationally related learning experiences in the Information Technology pathway, I ask that you reach out to me, Mr. Ron Suchy, ITP Instructor so we can discuss how to provide a meaningful experience for both our students and yourself or your organization. Email [rsuchy@mayfield-schools.org](mailto:rsuchy@mayfield-schools.org) or call/text (440) 476-5731. Thank you all, have a wonderful summer and take care!

**SkillsUSA**...continued from page 1

Information Technology & Programming

Bronze/Extemporaneous Speaking - \*Jenny Sarkar  
Bronze Team/Web Design & Development - \*Akaiya Abdullah & \*Matthew McClellan

Silver Team/Showcase-Business, Management & Technology - \*Artem Zabarov, \*Ruslan Zabarov & \*Tigran Baghdasaryan

Gold/Computer Programming - \*Collin Lewis

Gold/Technical Computer Applications - \*Khaliya Dogan

Gold Team/Interactive Application & Video Game Development - \*Alex Valerian & \*Kornel Gere

Interactive Media

Silver/Photography - \*Ethan Jaffe

Gold Team/Showcase-Arts & Communications - \*Ali Patouhas, \*Madelynn Alley, \*Jasdeep Singh & \*Ryan Thompson

Medical Technologies

Silver Team/Health Knowledge Bowl - \*Akshaya Lakshmanan, \*Elaina Marigney, \*Olivia Siferd & \*Zoie Vincent



FROM TOP:  
-The Excel TECC team of 41 competitors;

-Gold Medal winners;

-SkillsUSA Awards stage;

-Students in practice room;

-CADD Gold Medal team with instructor Mr Craig Schmidt [far right]



**INSIDE...**

- Front-**WELDING/  
SkillsUSA
- 2** -ALLIED HEALTH/  
AUTO TECH
- 3** -COS-MAY/  
CULINARY
- 4** -CADD
- 5** -CONSTRUCTION
- 6** -ESSR
- 7** -MEDICAL TECH
- 9** -ENVIRONMENTAL ED
- 11** -BUSINESS
- 12** -ITP
- 13** -SKILLSUSA

**Senior Send-Off 2022**

Congratulations to the 470 graduating seniors from Excel TECC programs! We celebrated at Landerhaven on May 11 with a luncheon and certificate ceremony. The event was live-streamed and the video is available on the Excel TECC website. The Class of 2022 earned scholarship awards totaling over \$12.1 million dollars! The winners of the Director’s Scholarship are Graham Cruz, a Beachwood student in Environmental Education and Lola Pre-seren, a South student in CADD Engineering; they each received \$1,500. We wish all the best to the Class of 2022 in their future endeavors.



CLOCKWISE from TOP:  
 -Performing Arts students Grace, Daniel and Mae sung the National Anthem;  
 -Lola and Graham accept the Director’s Scholarship;  
 -Students received certificates on stage;  
 -Dr Michael Barnes, Superintendent of Mayfield City Schools, addressed the gathering



**CONGRATULATIONS 2022 NTHS INDUCTEES!**



Congratulations to the 94 students who earned the National Technical Honor Society [NTHS] award this year. The inductees represented all ten consortium districts, eleven consortium high schools and sixteen different programs. To qualify for membership in NTHS students must have a 3.5 overall GPA and an ‘A’ average in their career technical program. Students complete an application packet which includes an essay on the attributes

of an honor student: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship and Leadership. The Induction Ceremony was held in April at Mayfield high school.



Follow us on Twitter @exceltecc  
 Visit our YouTube channel for videos of all programs;  
 Check our Website for news, program information & calendar of events

