



# COMPACT Points

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News from the Six District Educational Compact

Cuyahoga Falls • Hudson • Kent • Stow-Munroe Falls • Tallmadge • Woodridge

## Modern Communication students launch podcast and documentary

The first semester of Modern Communication Through Media Production, a new program for the 21-22 school year, has concluded and was jam-packed with extraordinary projects and experiences for these pioneering students.

Students spent their first semester at Cuyahoga Falls High School, focusing on audio production and broadcasting. Second semester will be spent at Hudson High School, focusing on video production and broadcasting.

*The 330* podcast was created by the MCTMP students and aims to appeal to high school students by providing relevant stories paired with dialogue surrounding how these stories impact high school students. They've interviewed the owner of Swenson's **Jeff Flowers**, retired Cuyahoga Falls Superintendent **Dr. Todd Nichols** and Cuyahoga Falls **Mayor Don Walters** to name a few. Students utilize Adobe Audition to create the podcast and run the production as a business, with a Board of Directors and positions for the students including editor and producer.

Instructor **Brent Hovey** describes these students as "creative, driven and resilient." He states that they have been faced with many challenges throughout the school year, including technical difficulties, delays in receiving equipment due to Covid, and system changes but they never gave up and have developed a strong understanding of how to make adjustments and power through to accomplish a goal.

Students shared that they are also in the process of producing a documentary, *The Making of The 330*, to showcase the program's "behind the scenes." In December, the students aired a private screening of the first version of the documentary at CFHS to select administration and teachers. They plan to continue working on the documentary at HHS and air a final version at the end of the school year.

**Dylan Watson**, junior from Cuyahoga Falls and *The 330* producer, describes the most gratifying experience of the program so far as, "hearing how well the segments are recorded



and how team members gain skill and produce better quality as they progress."

*The 330* can be found anywhere you get your podcasts and also on 96.1 WCFI-FM, the local radio station that has partnered with the program.

Follow *The 330* on Instagram and TikTok @the330pocast.



From left, Allison Bogdan (CFHS Principal), Joel Morgan (WHS Principal), Maria Miller (Summa), Mary Jane Stanchina (SDEC Executive Director), Angela Smith (Summa), Christina Wooley (Hudson Curriculum Coordinator), Karen Rumley (Kent Director of Instructional Program)

## Compact collaborates with Summa Health

In early December, Compact Executive Director **Mary Jane Stanchina** brought together administrators and curriculum directors from the six districts to meet with Summa Health talent acquisition and workforce planning directors **Maria Miller** and **Angela Smith** to discuss potential partnership opportunities. Maria and Angela shared Summa's talent needs and individuals from the six districts shared their perspectives on student and staff needs. The think tank discussed opportunities surrounding career exploration, work-based learning, job shadowing, leadership training and professional development. The ongoing partnership looks forward to continuing the conversation in 2022 and establishing a thoughtful long-term plan to work together.

Let's Connect



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Casey Johnson Bowers, instructor Shane Parker and Chief Supreme Court Justice Maureen O'Connor.

## Criminal Justice students participate in The Ohio Supreme Court program

Criminal Justice students had the unique opportunity to participate in The Ohio Supreme Court Off-Site Court program in October. This program gives students a front-row view of the state's court of last resort and students are able to observe three cases each day.

Before the Court's session each day, students had the opportunity to hear from the justices, who explained their work at the Court and fielded questions. Each day ended with students debriefing with the attorneys who argued the cases and students were able to share their thoughts and questions. Instructor **Shane Parker** states, "This was a tremendous opportunity for my students to observe real life oral arguments before The Ohio Supreme Court. I am ecstatic that we were able to be a part of it."

Additionally, **Casey Johnson Bowers** (Stow-Munroe Falls) was selected to be the student speaker at the formal Supreme Court Off-Site luncheon at The University of Akron Law School. Casey shares, "This experience was a once in a lifetime opportunity. It is so much more meaningful to actually see how things work, rather than just hear about them. I was honored to be able to thank the court on behalf of my classmates."



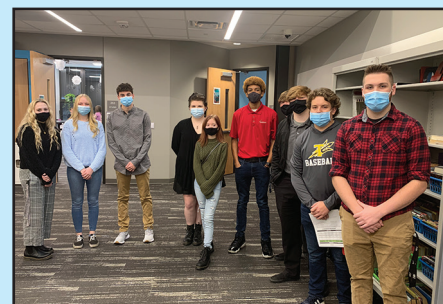
Keith Perroto (Woodridge) at the Akron Marathon finish line

## AHCF students volunteer at Akron Marathon

Several Level II Athletic Health Care and Fitness seniors volunteered at the Akron Marathon in September. Instructor **Terry Slattery** connected students to this opportunity through **Dr. Nilesh Shah**, Medical Director of the Akron Marathon, who also serves as the Chair of the AHCF Advisory Board and is the volunteer Team Physician for Roosevelt Athletics. Seniors **Kelsey Barker** (Tallmadge), **Keith Perroto** (Woodridge), and **Evan Reischman** (Cuyahoga Falls) volunteered in various medical support roles at the medical tent finish line.

## Business Pathway students teach economics to elementary students

In December, Business Pathway students at Tallmadge High School partnered with Junior Achievement to deliver economics lessons to all of the fifth grade classes at Tallmadge Elementary School. The unit lesson was titled "Our Nation" and focused on free enterprise, entrepreneurship, global trade and interconnectivity, career planning, and innovation and technology. Junior Achievement is a non-profit organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to plan for their futures. Instructor **Kim Brendel** states that this was a great opportunity for the students to "see the value in volunteerism" and shared that they plan to visit fourth grade classrooms this spring to teach another lesson.



Business Pathway students visit Tallmadge Elementary to teach economics



Mathew Kelley (Tallmadge) & Kylee Cooper (Stow) planting trees in the Portage Park District

## Portage Park District plants 30 acres of trees in honor of 30th anniversary

Last Spring, Forestry students assisted the Portage Park District's mission to plant 30 acres of trees in honor of the park's 30th anniversary. This effort was aimed to address ongoing challenges to forest health, including invasive species, disease and fragmentation. Forestry students were led by Portage Park District employees and volunteers, along with students from Kent State University and Hiram College.

## FCS teachers participate in professional development

In October, Family and Consumer Science instructors from the six Compact districts gathered together alongside Compact Executive Director **Mary Jane Stanchina** and ODE Program Specialist **Mary Jo Kohl** for professional development. Mary Jo Kohl provided updates from ODE and the instructors collaborated through discussions regarding financial literacy, advisory committees, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapters and events and upcoming conferences and events.



Mary Jo Kohl shares updates from ODE to FCS instructors



## Completers give back to their CTE programs

Powerful connections within CTE programs provide students with strong relationships that set the foundation for a positive learning environment. These relationships remain once students graduate. Many completers feel inspired to give back to the CTE programs that they gained so much from. Completers volunteer their time by visiting CTE classrooms to share their stories, mentoring students and/or serving on program Advisory Boards.



Pete Grantham

**Pete Grantham**, '14 Hudson graduate and Forestry completer, recently visited Roosevelt and spoke with Level I students about his educational and professional journey. Pete shared how CTE programs can provide students with purpose, hard skills and endless opportunities.

Pete attended The Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) for two years and then went on to The Ohio State University where he received his BS in Horticulture in 2018. Pete completed an internship in Bonn, Germany, at the Arboretum Park Hale as part of his OSU education. Upon graduation from OSU, Pete secured a management position with a Columbus-based landscape company and then went on to work for Ag Pro Equipment Sales, where he sold both large and small power equipment used throughout the "Green" industry. Pete is now preparing for a move to Virginia, where he will be working as a territory sales manager for a horticulture product business. Pete was inspired by the words of many completers that visited his program when he was in high school and hopes that sharing his story will motivate students to reach their full potential.



Dante DeGeronimo

**Dante DeGeronimo** is a '16 Hudson graduate and Culinary completer who serves on the Culinary Advisory Board. Dante graduated from The Culinary Institute of America in 2019 with degrees in both Culinary Arts and Food Service Management. He is currently the Executive Sous Chef at HarvestOwl, a corporate catering company based in Cleveland.

This fall, Dante visited Level I students in the Culinary program to share his success story. Dante credits his instructors for providing him with the skills and confidence to succeed and is grateful for the life-long friendships that he made within the program. Dante hopes that current and future students understand that the key to success in this "humbling industry" is "not about being the best in class," but rather having the determination and persistence to learn from your mistakes and continue to improve.

Culinary Arts instructor **Tracy Lee** states, "It is always an honor to welcome back students; we are very fortunate to have completers on our Advisory Board who offer valuable advice to our program."



## Level I Teaching Professions students gain classroom field experience

Students in Teaching Professions gain valuable professional skills and real-world experience through field experiences. Three times a year, Level I students spend two days a week for five weeks in a classroom setting. With the assistance of program instructor **Rhonda Butler**, students select a grade level they have interest in and connect with a teacher at a school within one of the Compact's six districts. Students assist teachers and students with all aspects of the school day and learn about classroom procedures, behavior management and grade level curriculum.

**Samantha Cowger** (Stow-Munroe Falls), completed her field experience in Mrs. Alissa Kruse's 2nd grade classroom at Highland Elementary in Stow. Samantha states, "I enjoyed the experience because I was with one of my former teachers. I enjoyed interacting with the students and helping out as much as possible." Teacher **Alissa Kruse** shared, "Samantha has done a great job. What has most impressed me is her taking initiative. She frequently notices a need and jumps in to support without a need for prompting. The class already loves her too!"



Laney Handschumacher  
(Stow-Munroe Falls)

## Project SEARCH earns Excellent Outcome Award

Project SEARCH is a collaborative, site-based initiative that has partnered with Summa Health since 2005. The program helps qualified students make a successful transition from school to the world of work by experiencing hands-on-training in the hospital setting. Project SEARCH was recently awarded an Excellent Employment Outcome Award, recognizing that the 2019-2020 student intern cohort achieved between 70-90% employment! Congratulations!

## News from around the Compact...



Students attend the Dare to Dream Retreat at John Carroll University

### Students attend Dare to Dream Retreat

In November, female students from the Academy of Medical Office & Business Management and the Interactive Marketing & Design programs attended the Dare to Dream Retreat hosted by John Carroll University's Entrepreneurship Program. Students listened to inspiring guest speakers and also engaged in activities designed to help them recognize their strengths and develop their passion for entrepreneurship.

AMOBM student, **Bhawana Biswa** (Cuyahoga Falls), stated that she enjoyed the keynote speaker, **Adrienne Bankert**, journalist and anchor for NewsNation, who spoke about the superpower of kindness. Bhawana was "struck by her confidence and motivation to meet her goals." AMOBM instructor, **Glynis Palmisano**, shared that the speakers' messages to the students were powerful, stating that students, "need to be vulnerable and willing to fail, pick themselves up and continue to act on their dreams in order to reach their full potential."



Mackenzie Aubin (Roosevelt), Kyle Bender (Tallmadge) and Katelyn Dent (Roosevelt) volunteering at the craft show

### HCT students raise funds for Be The Match

Health Careers Technologies students raised \$500 at the November Roosevelt craft fair to donate to *Be The Match*, the international service organization the program chose to support this school year. *Be The Match* runs the

largest bone marrow registry in the United States and also sponsors research about blood disease, patient education and financial support for patients and their families. **Katelyn Dent** (Roosevelt) states, "*Be The Match* is an awesome organization. We were all proud to fundraise for the organization because the Bone Marrow Registry is such an incredibly important tool for people with blood cancers."

*The Six District Educational Compact does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities.*

### Culinary Arts receives grant for hydroponic growing system

Last school year, the Culinary Arts program received a grant from the GDP Group Employees Foundation to fund a hydroponic growing system. This Garden Tower system is housed in the classroom lab space and utilizes aeroponic technology, so no soil is required, and has been shown to yield 30% more than a typical plant growth. The LED lights allow the tower to be used inside, year-round. The Culinary students have already grown and used tomatoes, peppers, lettuce and herbs in their cooking and look forward to the addition of new vegetables and herbs throughout the year.



### PSD student wins Capture the Flag Challenge

Congratulations to **Erick Le** (Stow-Munroe Falls), Programming & Software Development Level II student, for winning 2nd place in the 2nd Annual Greater Cleveland Partnership/Regional Information Technology Engagement High School Capture the Flag Challenge! Capture the Flag is a Jeopardy-style competition where students compete individually or in teams earning points of varying values based on the complexity of the task/problem within a limited timeframe.



Erick Le  
(Stow-Munroe Falls)

### ECP students prepare for ParaPro Assessment

Level II Early Childhood Professions students will take the ParaPro Assessment this spring and upon graduating, will have the ability to earn this credential and work as a paraprofessional. Paraprofessionals typically serve as teacher assistants or aides and help teachers manage their students and classroom, provide one-on-one guidance to students on their lessons and assist in the implementation of instructional programs. ECP students are preparing for this assessment by learning about child development, differentiation and accommodations in the classroom.

### Collision Repair students working in the community

Winter is the season for many automotive accidents and students in the Collision Repair program, located at the Faber Foundation in Cuyahoga Falls, have been busy performing body repair to around five cars a week from the community. This work has provided the students with the skills and experience necessary to land paid internships in the community.

**Dakota Karnuth** (Roosevelt) recently began working at Crash Champions in Akron. **Bradley Kirk** (Tallmadge) has been working at Alpine Auto Body in Tallmadge. Both students perform tear down and body repair work as their main job responsibilities. Alpine Auto Body is owned by '10 Collision Repair completer and Stow-Munroe Falls graduate, **Andrew Licata**. Program instructor **Todd Jones** shares, "I am very proud of these students for pursuing the opportunity for paid work while in the program, and am thrilled to see my former student, Andrew, as a shop owner."



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