



Construction Technologies

Career-Technical Education Program News from the Six District Educational Compact

Community Connections



Sylvester Freeman (Kent) with the Stow-Munroe Falls Library scaled model

The Stow-Munroe Falls Safety Town, located off of Fishcreek Road, is a favorite among Stow families and surrounding communities. During the 2007-2008 school year, students in the Construction Technologies program constructed all of the existing scaled models to create what stands today. Fifteen years later, officials from the city of Stow contacted instructor Don Titko to see if his students would collaborate once again on a new addition.

Seniors **Sylvester Freeman** (Kent), **Owen Snyder** (Woodridge), **Gavin Nesbitt** (Woodridge), **JT Hill** (Stow-Munroe Falls) **Nate McCollum** (Stow-Munroe Falls) and **AJ Kline** (Stow-Munroe Falls)

were tasked with planning the construction of a scaled model of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library to represent the structure at a small scale. Sylvester Freeman led this effort and embodies many of the essential characteristics found in a successful professional. He is described as community-minded, kind and hard-working. Titko shares that, "we met the task with this beautiful building highlighting all the important architectural characteristics of the library focusing on the front entryway."



Level I students alongside their scaled home projects

Level I students gain valuable experience

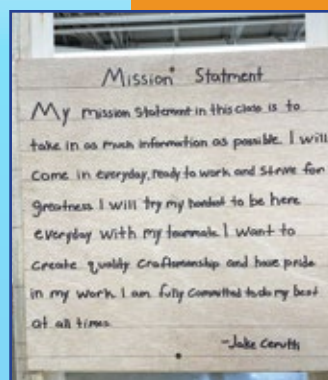
The expansive classroom lab space at Theodore Roosevelt High School provides a unique and exceptional opportunity for students to fully immerse themselves in real-world projects to apply the theories and skills that they learn.

Level I students spend much of the school year completing a scaled home project in teams of two. Students complete framing, finished exterior covering, electrical, plumbing, drywall, finish trim work, flooring and painting. This project is a combination of theory and lab application that allows for a deep understanding of all of the concepts taught, while preparing students for their senior year internship.

Character development is also emphasized and at the start of the project all students create their mission statement to define their goals. These

mission statements are posted near their projects and serve as a reminder and motivator each day. Responsibility, accountability, honesty, discipline, willingness, organization and teamwork are some of the themes discussed throughout the program.

Jake Cerutti's mission statement





Marianne Incorvatti

Internships are an integral component of Construction Technologies

Students in the Construction Technologies program are able to apply

what they learn both in the classroom lab and while working in their internship. Instructor Don Titko works with Level II students to secure a paid internship placement with an area business partner or a pre-apprenticeship with the carpenter's union. One such example is Level II senior, **Marianne Incorvatti** (Stow-Munroe Falls), who started her internship at Western Reserve Hospital the summer after her first year in the program. Western Reserve Hospital is a partner of the Six District Educational Compact and works with program instructors to facilitate internships and mentorships in a variety of different career fields.

Marianne works in the Facilities and Maintenance Department where she demonstrates a wealth of electrical knowledge and skill obtained from the program. Marianne works an average of 20+ hours a week and shares, "I learned very quickly that the Facilities and Maintenance department does everything under the sun! I appreciate the opportunity to gain experience in a variety of areas and I have learned of many great opportunities for my future, including the possibility of having my employer assist with paying for college or trade school." Upon graduation and completion of the program, Marianne hopes to continue working for Western Reserve Hospital while pursuing a post-secondary education in the electrical field.

Success Story

Stephen Cochran is a 2000 Tallmadge High School graduate and completer of the Construction Technologies program. Steve is the owner of *Cochran's Remodeling and Construction* out of Stow. Steve is an advocate for the program as he firmly believes that both the skill and character development within the program translate to success. Construction Technologies completers **Ben Klukow** (Hudson '11), **Nick Long** (Tallmadge '14) and **Jack Bissler** (Kent '20) are all employees at *Cochran's Remodeling and Construction*.



Additionally, **Justin Shwablen** (Kent) is a current student who is in a paid internship with Steve. Maintaining connections with completers of the program in the field is a beneficial aspect of the program as they provide a wealth of knowledge and networking opportunities for the students.

Intern Justin Shwablen and completer Nick Long working on a cabinet project for Cochran's Remodeling and Construction

Student Spotlight

Nevaeh Hersman (Kent), is a Level I Construction Technologies student and a true leader within the program. Instructor **Don Titko** describes Nevaeh as an outstanding young lady and shining light in the program. He shares that she is accountable, always willing to lend a helpful hand and often goes above and beyond what is asked of her. In addition to finding great success within the program, Nevaeh works part-time, plays four full-time sports (soccer, cross country, cheer and track and field), and serves as a Freshman Mentor. Nevaeh has won several leadership and character awards, including the Rough Rider Award, Leadership Award and MVP several times. She was accepted as a member of the National Honor Society for her outstanding character traits and a cumulative G.P.A. of above a 4.0. Nevaeh is still exploring different career options but knows that she wants to pursue something within the construction field and we can't wait to see what the future holds for her!



Nevaeh Hersman

Pre-apprenticeships provide a jumpstart for students

Five Level II seniors within the Construction Technologies program are currently enrolled in the pre-apprenticeship program initiated by the Carpenters Local Union this school year.

Jacob Hill (Stow-Munroe Falls), **Andrew Kline** (Stow-Munroe Falls), **Jeff McCourt** (Tallmadge), **Gavin Nesbitt** (Woodridge) and **Owen Snyder** (Woodridge) and are all employed by union commercial contractors, Western Reserve Interiors, Inc. and Independence Contractors, Inc.

The contractors log all of the hours that the students work and forward this information to the apprenticeship school where the hours will count toward the total hours needed for the 4-year apprenticeship. It is currently projected that upon completion of the program, these five students will enter their full apprenticeship as a 2nd year apprentice.



Field trip to Hartville Hardware

Level I students participated in a field trip to Hartville Hardware for their annual tool show this fall. Students watched demonstrations from vendor representatives from all of the major tool manufacturers and gained first hand knowledge from many of the representatives. Students also toured the 323,000 square foot facility and enjoyed a meal together at Hartville Kitchen.