



COMPACT Points

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News from the Six District Educational Compact

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



Aidan Justice
training at the
Twinsburg Fire
Department

Aidan Justice

Athletic Health Care senior pursuing EMT certification

Aidan Justice (Stow-Munroe Falls), a Level II senior in Athletic Health Care and Fitness (AHCF), is pouring his drive, passion and dedication into the last semester of his high school career by taking a demanding Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course through the Hudson Emergency Medical Services Training Center.

The five-month EMT course requires Aidan to attend class for 8 hours each week after school, as well as two full Saturdays of training a month. He will be learning about the human body, assessment and evaluation skills, as well as treatment procedures that can treat injuries and save lives. After completing the Accredited EMT program, he will be able to sit for the National Emergency Medical Technician Exam and become both Nationally Registered and licensed in the state of Ohio. In addition, Aidan spends two hours a week in the Twinsburg Fire Department's Explorers program where he is receiving basic-level training with full-time firefighters.

Aidan's future plans include working as an EMT while he completes his paramedic training, as well as pursuing an undergraduate degree in Public Health from Kent State University. Congratulations Aidan; you are on your way to being career and college ready!

Success Story



Stephanie Bohnak

Stephanie Bohnak, a Culinary Arts and Hospitality Studies completer, has had a unique educational and professional journey since graduating from Cuyahoga Falls High School in 2015.

Currently, Stephanie serves as the Director of Education and Outreach at the National First Ladies Library and Museum in Canton, Ohio. In addition to managing tours and assisting in exhibit design, Stephanie also serves as the event planner and caterer for all special events. These responsibilities blend Stephanie's unique expertise and passions!

Stephanie's extensive educational background includes degrees in Culinary Arts, History, Anthropology and culminated when she earned her Master of Arts from Bowling Green University (BGSU) in History. At BGSU, Stephanie specialized in women's and labor history, American enslavement and food history. Her research delved into the intriguing realm of culinary diplomacy during presidential administrations, including a deep dive into the culinary strategies of the Kennedy administration.

Stephanie's career pathway is an exceptional example of how CTE can jumpstart your future by allowing you to begin the process of investigating your passion and interests while in high school. We are proud of Stephanie's commitment and dedication to her career!



Project SEARCH staff attended the Goodwill gala to celebrate Emilee (pictured 2nd from L) as she was awarded the Mission Moment of the year

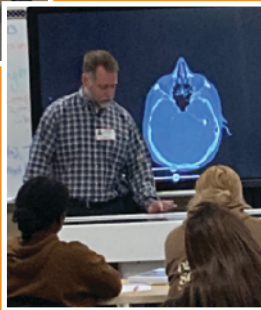
Project SEARCH completer honored by Goodwill

Emilee Gerstenslager (Cuyahoga Falls), a 2023 Project SEARCH completer, was honored at Goodwill's 17th Annual Taste of Vintage gala fundraiser as the Mission Moment of the year. Goodwill reviews participants from across their five service counties as "mission moments" to highlight those who have overcome barriers to employment to succeed within the community. Emilee was selected among all entries to be honored and celebrated during the gala for her accomplishments as an Environmental Aide at Summa Health. **Lisa Shonberg**, Training Manager for Summa Health-Environmental Services states, "Emily makes a huge difference every day. She is a gem. Our partnership with Project SEARCH and Goodwill has been amazing...it is such a beneficial program for people like Emilee who just need a little extra [support]." Emilee's Job Training Specialist **Collin Spencer** shares, "Her politeness, compassion, and care for others are what really make her excel." Congratulations, Emilee!



Dr. Salman shares fascinating stories of her work as a global health specialist

Dr. Fuerst demonstrates how MRI's are read on the anamatoqe table



Experienced professionals give Health Careers students valuable insight

Health Careers students gain a wealth of career exploration through the knowledge and insights they receive during career presentations. Recently, both Level I and Level II students had the opportunity to hear from experienced professionals in both radiology and oncology.

Dr. Dan Fuerst, MD, is a diagnostic radiologist at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Nebraska. Dr. Fuerst presented to Level I students regarding his pathway and challenges as he pursued his undergraduate studies at Case Western Reserve University, medical school at The University of Toledo College of Medicine and his residency at the Cleveland Clinic. Students learned about the many different specializations within the field of radiology. Dr. Fuerst demonstrated how MRIs are read using the anamatoqe table.

Level II students attended a career presentation by **Dr. Zeena Salman, MD**, a pediatric oncologist with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - Global Health. Dr. Salman captivated Health Careers students as she explained her work as a global health specialist, assisting pediatric cancer patients in war-torn and low-resource countries throughout the world. She specifically highlighted her work with Ukrainian children at the Unicorn Marian Wolemski Clinic in Poland and how she assisted Palestinian children to Egypt to continue their cancer treatment.

We appreciate the time and support that our valuable career presenters give to our students and programs!

Let's Connect



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Community Ag students pose with the Brutus statue at OSU ATI

The tour included an up-close look of the dairy production facility at OSU ATI



Community Agriculture students visit OSU ATI

On a cold and rainy day in late November, students from Community Agriculture for Local Impact were greeted by the warmth of the greenhouses and the friendliness of the guides as they toured Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) in Wooster. Ohio State ATI prepares students for both two- and four-year degrees in a variety of fields including Sustainable Agriculture, Crop Management and Soil Conservation, Livestock Production and Management, and Pre-Veterinary Medicine. Students were able to tour labs, dorms, lecture halls, greenhouses, and the dairy production facilities. **Hannah Clark** (Tallmadge) stated, "I enjoyed visiting the dairy facility, learning about how they keep their cows, and I liked walking around the beautiful campus." "I am definitely more interested in the agriculture field after visiting ATI," added **Hailey Testa** (Cuyahoga Falls). Additional educational field trips are planned throughout the year including heading to the Cuyahoga River to learn about water testing for agriculture runoff and to various businesses that support local agriculture.

Kent City Schools awarded Career Technical Construction Program funds

Over \$2 million in special state funding was received by Kent City Schools to aid in the construction of an Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Center at Theodore Roosevelt High School. At a press conference in early November, the DeWine-Husted administration announced Kent City Schools as a recipient of the Career Technical Construction Program, a priority earmark in the new state budget for expansion of career-technical facilities in Ohio's public schools. No local funds will be needed to complete the project.

The plan is to design and build a 3,500 square-foot state-of-the-art addition to support expanded enrollment for Six District Educational Compact's manufacturing and engineering pathway programs held at Roosevelt. Kent City Schools Director of Career-Technical Education **Brian Bachtel** states, "We have worked collaboratively to design this project to create an optimal environment for students to be prepared for entry-level manufacturing and engineering employment or post-secondary studies." Kent City Schools Superintendent **Tom Larkin** was in attendance at the press conference and shared, "The Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Center project will help meet the workforce needs of local and regional business and industry."



Kent City Schools Superintendent Tom Larkin with Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted at the press conference in November, where Kent City Schools was announced as the recipient of an over \$2 million construction grant

Career Program Showcase highlights valuable CTE opportunities

Over 1,500 students, parents, community members and local industry professionals were welcomed to Kent State University (KSU) in January to view the exhibits of the Six District Educational Compact's 29 Career-Technical Education (CTE) programs at the inaugural Career Program Showcase.

The energy was high during both the day and evening showcases, where visitors were provided with information, hands-on activities and giveaways to encourage them to engage in further exploration of the valuable opportunities within CTE. Executive Director **Mary Jane Stanchina** implored students to investigate jumpstarting their future by joining a Compact program and shared the message that **CTE is for all**.

150 student ambassadors, representing the Compact's 29 CTE programs, played an integral role at the Showcase. To prepare for the Showcase, ambassadors participated in a two-day training where they developed their leadership and public-speaking skills as well as provided creative input regarding the Showcase details. In collaboration with their program instructors, they created eye-catching program exhibits, produced marketing materials and program giveaways and shared their stories and program information to visitors.

The development of this event was based on the work of a Compact planning committee that identified the need for a cohesive and consistent message to students and families from all six districts about the CTE programs available. Additionally, the event aimed to increase engagement among local industry professionals and community members. The Compact appreciates the effort and support of many who made this memorable event a great success!



Executive Director Mary Jane Stanchina welcomes sophomores from Tallmadge High School

Kent Roosevelt Career-Technical Education Director Brian Bachtel MC'd the program exhibit portion of the event, alongside Mary Jane Stanchina



Computer Science Pathways student ambassadors engage with prospective students

EntrePreNew Pathways student ambassadors brought great energy and enthusiasm to the Showcase



Bright smiles from the Early Childhood Professions student ambassadors as they prepare for the Showcase



Forestry and Environmental Studies student ambassadors share information with a parent



Sophomores from Kent Roosevelt check out Modern Communications through Media Production



Hudson High School sophomores interact with the robotic dog at the Electronics, Robotics and Programming exhibit



Criminal Justice students visit Summit County Juvenile Court

Level I Criminal Justice students paid a visit to the Summit County Juvenile Court, where they had the opportunity to observe several juvenile hearings to better understand the process and scope of the professionals involved in the hearings. Additionally, students networked and interviewed with several industry professionals, including magistrates, probation officers, detention officers, attorneys and other social workers. Thank you to Probation Administrator **Jennifer Bond** (pictured above, far left) for supporting this valuable experience for our students!



Level I Programming and Software Development (Stow-Munroe Falls) students engage with IT professionals in round table discussions and interact with innovative technology and tech organizations at the 10th Annual Passport to IT Careers Expo in Cleveland

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.

AMOBM connects students to valuable internships

Several Academy of Medical Office and Business Management students have secured internships this school year. These internships are excellent opportunities for students to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained in the program in a business setting while making connections in the industry and strengthening their professional skills. **Alonie Rackley** (Stow-Munroe Falls) is interning at *Unity Health* in Tallmadge, where she is a receptionist in a busy doctor's office. **Matteen Khender** (Hudson) has been a medical coding/billing intern for *Family Plus Care* in Munroe Falls since June. **Alisha Neopanay** (Cuyahoga Falls) is working at *Levinson Family Chiropractic* where she is an office associate, scheduling and checking in patients and filing records.



Through AMOBM and her internship, senior Alisha Neopanay (Cuyahoga Falls) is jumpstarting her future career goals of becoming a nurse

Theater Arts students engage in unique workshops with professionals

Theater Arts and Careers Academy's first semester was jam-packed with visits from professionals who led students in interactive and hands-on workshops!

Nick Bishop, Audio Engineer - *Career Readiness Workshop*: Students learned about audio engineering and applied their knowledge to adapt scripts to create a unique blend of technical and creative skills.

Jordan Boughner, Filmmaking Major - *Script Critique and College Advice*: Inspired by Jordan Boughner's insights, students delved into screenwriting and produced their own screenplays to reflect their individual artistic voices.

Roger Miller, FX (Special Effects) Artist - *Character Creation Workshop*: Students explored character design and ventured into the world of graphic novels where they showcased their storytelling skills through visual narratives.



Level II student Sebastian Harnack (Tallmadge) brings to life an original character designed by students during a character creation project

Ron Gould, Comedian - *Stand-Up Comedy Workshop*: Students refined their stand-up comedy sets and explored the realm of slam poetry, where they learned to combine humor and spoken word to create a powerful performance.

John Thomas, FX (Special Effects) Artist and **Kelly Pilkenroth**, Event Planner, Makeup Artist and Actor: Mentored and critiqued students in their character creation projects.



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