



As parents, you might think that the new Michigan Merit Curriculum brings higher expectations to schools, the classroom, and your children. You might feel that the Merit Curriculum does a better job of getting your child ready for college. On the other hand, you might feel that Merit Curriculum has missed the mark. Your children may not use Algebra II but they may need more financial literacy and the Merit Curriculum needs to change. In either case, you should know that Merit Curriculum is getting ready to be changed by the legislature for better or worse. It is easier than ever to weigh in on how you feel about the Merit Curriculum by calling or emailing your state legislators on this topic.

Beyond the Merit Curriculum, due to the state financial crisis, we are getting ready to see significant cuts in funding to public education. During this school year, we will likely see a reduction of approximately \$200 per student in funding (combining a per pupil cut along with categorical funding cuts.) It is interesting, however, that we will not know what the funding will be until after the school year has already started. Projections indicate that we will see a reduction of at least \$450 per pupil in the 2010-11 school year. If cuts get to this level (almost 10% less funding next year than we got last year), you will see big changes at your local

public school. The changes might include eliminating pre-school programs, larger class sizes, charges for athletics, reduced busing, and less opportunities for your children.

Parents need to weigh in and hold the legislature accountable so that children are not losers during these challenging times. Economic forecasters have said that we are in for a long period of budget challenges because schools will likely not see the same level of funding per student again until the year 2020. You might ask, how does this prioritize public education?

As Parents We Need to Become Political Advocates

You can advocate for your child by contacting your elected officials:

- Representative Darwin Booher at darwinbooher@house.mi.gov or (517) 373-1725
- Representative Joel Sheltroun at joelsheltroun@house.mi.gov or (517) 373-3817
- Senator Michelle McManus at senMMcManus@senate.michigan.gov or (517) 373-1725

Please call Scott Crosby at (231) 876-2260 or email at scrosby@wmisd.org with thoughts or questions related to our services.

Focus on the Future is a monthly publication of the WMISD. For additional copies, please contact Jennifer Gaffke at 231-876-2210. Please contact any of our Staff if you have any questions.
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Director of Career Technical Education—Dave Cox, 231.876.2207
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An Exciting Year Ahead for the Agriscience and Natural Resources Program



With the start of fall semester comes the changing of the seasons. The leaves are beginning to turn color, and the familiar crisp morning air welcomes us as we head off to work or school. Salmon are showing up in area rivers, and wildlife are becoming more active in anticipation of the coming winter. With these changes come exciting new opportunities for students enrolled in the Agriscience and Natural Resources program at CTC. During fall semester, three broad topics of study will be presented, including Forestry, Wildlife Management, and Environmental Issues. In addition, principles of aquaculture, floral design, and equipment operation will also be presented.

This fall, the Wexford-Missaukee Chapter of FFA will again become active locally and will be involved in a number of community service events, some of which are already scheduled. On September 22, the class will assist in a Clam River clean up in cooperation with the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly and the Wexford Conservation District. The class is also participating in a child safety expo to be held in Cadillac at the local fire department. In October, the class will compete with other FFA chapters in our region at the decathlon event, where last year our students won first and second place among over 60 teams competing.

One specific exciting event planned for this semester is a trip to the Little Manistee weir during the salmon harvest to observe how a fish harvest works, and to gather our eggs for the Salmon in the Classroom project. As part of the Salmon in the Classroom project, students will learn the life cycle of the Chinook Salmon while raising the fish in the classroom. We are also expecting delivery of a new sawmill during the semester, which will be used to teach principles of lumber production, some of which will be harvested from school property.

The Agriscience and Natural Resources program at CTC is intended to appeal to a wide range of student interests, and area students with an interest in natural resources, including fisheries, wildlife, forestry, agriculture, floral design, or soil science are encouraged to check out the program to prepare you for a career in the outdoors!

Thank You!

The following businesses generously donated supplies for the outdoor food plots, which are part of the wildlife curriculum in the Agriscience and Natural Resources Program:

- **McBain Grain Co.**—Donated 200 pounds of fertilizer and 50 pounds of rye seed.
- **Pioneer Seed Corn**—Donated 50 pounds of winter wheat seed.



Spring 2009—Habitat for Humanity Home
Walnut Street, Cadillac, Michigan
*Constructed by the 2008-09
CTC Building Trades Students*



Fall 2009—Habitat for Humanity Home
Boon Street, Cadillac, Michigan
*Being constructed by the 2009-10
CTC Building Trades Students*

CTC Building Trades Program



FALL 2009—PM Students



FALL 2009—AM Students



News from the Machine Trades Class

This year the Machine Trades program is implementing a few changes. Modern day industry is rapidly changing and our program is making changes along with them. Even though the automotive industry is struggling, there is still a viable industry for products in national defense, aerospace, medical, media, and environmental fields, to name a few. We, as consumers, are not always mindful of what it takes to manufacture products that impact our daily lives, yet we enjoy the benefits these products provide for us.

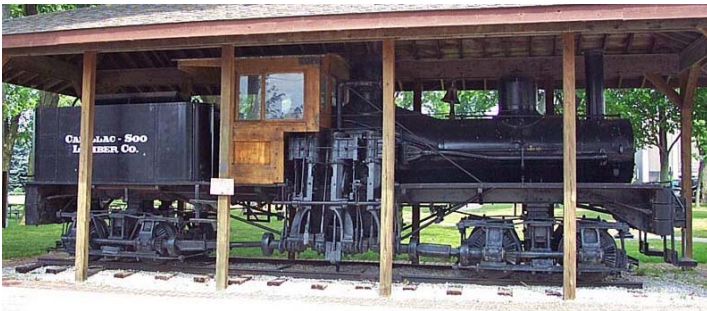
Industry is investing in state-of-the-art technology, such as high-end software that designs, tests, and communicates with computerized machining centers. The machines used to produce technology advanced products need highly skilled people to operate, maintain, and program these machines. They need personnel who have versatile skills, education, and can think outside the box.

The Machine Trades program is working toward meeting their needs with updated course objectives and equipment. Students will be introduced to computerized numerical control (CNC) and computer aided machining (CAM) sooner and in more depth. A student enrolling in the program can earn math credits at their local high school with the expanded math curriculum. The program is also looking into adopting other changes to the curriculum that would help students earn high school credits in other subject areas while they attend the CTC. Students will also have an opportunity to receive four credits in Introduction to Manufacturing, free of charge, through dual enrollment with Baker College.

As a class project this year, students will begin manufacturing a scale model of the Shay Locomotive that is similar to the Shay steam engine located in Cadillac's City Park. Students will be machining castings, designing parts in CAM, linking CAM to CNC, running both manual and CNC metal removal equipment. This will incorporate the various skills taught and give real life results.

Did you know?

Manufacturing represents 26.4% of all industry in Cadillac, which is the largest of any sector.
(Source: U.S. Census 2000)



When the local, state and national economies begin to recover, our students will be better prepared to be successful in the high technical fields within the manufacturing industry.

For more information, please contact David Langdon, Machine Trades Instructor, at 231-876-2200.

A NEW BEGINNING AT CTC!

The 2009-2010 school year at CTC is close at hand and full of re-imagination and change.

For starters, we are proud to be offering an expanded Allied Health program to accommodate over 90 students who have an interest in health careers. We will be also offering a Public Safety program that will be taught as a college course for students on our campus through West Shore Community College and Baker College. Mr. Frank Dickson, a veteran of law enforcement and a retired state trooper, will be at the reins.

We are continuing to pursue more dual and direct credit enrollment opportunities for our students through Baker College, Ferris State University and West Shore Community College. Additionally, we are moving forward with plans to offer and recommend academic courses and credit recovery options on our campus.

At CTC our mission is simple, *“Preparing Students for Career Success.”* The entire staff at CTC is very passionate about the value of career and technical education. We will not be scared to take the road less traveled in attempt to reach our mission. Furthermore, we will continue to make the necessary changes and re-imagine ways to keep the bar high when it comes to delivering quality career and technical education programs.

Feel free to stop in the Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center and see first hand the power of career and technical education and why the CTC is “The Place To Be.”

For more information, please contact David Cox, WMCTC Director, at 231-876-2207.



Sharon Badovinac has been hired as a Paraprofessional in the Allied Health Technology program. Sharon has an Associate’s degree in Nursing from Northwestern Michigan College and has worked as a LPN and RN in various medical settings. Most recently, however, Sharon was a stay-at-home mom and wife for her three children and her husband, Tony. Sharon’s favorite hobby is exercising.

Frank Dickson is the new Public Safety Instructor at the CTC. Frank retired from the Michigan State Police after 30 years of law enforcement. He has a Bachelor’s degree from Ferris State University in Criminal Justice. Frank’s wife, Kathryn, is a kindergarten teacher with the Cadillac Area Public Schools.



Nancy Wallington has been hired as an Instructor in the Allied Health Technology program. Nancy had previously been the paraprofessional in the program but was hired as an instructor when the program expanded to two sections this school year. Nancy has Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Ferris State University. She worked as a Registered Nurse in hospital settings for over 25 years. She is married to her high school sweetheart and has two grown sons. She is also proud of her 130 pound dog, a Rhodesian Ridgeback named Louise.



Sara Armstrong (Physical Therapy Assistant) previously provided services to students and staff members through a contract with Agility Health since 2000. She is now a full-time employee with the ISD. She comes to us with nine (9) years of experience with children and in both schools and outpatient settings. She received her Associates Degree from Baker College.

New Special Education Staff

Tamra Ross (Speech Therapist) is a recent graduate of Michigan State University (Master of Arts Degree in Speech and Language Pathology). She completed her Bachelor of Science Degree from Central Michigan University while specializing in Communication Disorders. She had the opportunity to intern and/or substitute in the following school districts: Eaton ISD, Grand Ledge, Charlotte, and Mt. Pleasant. She also had internships at Central Michigan University, Munson Medical Center, and Eaton County Medical Care Facility.



CTC Co-op Students of the Month

Danielle Agar (Business Management Administration, Pine River HS) works at the WMISD Business Office.

Shawn Barnes (Allied Health Technology, Mesick HS) works at LTSS Inc.



ID Badges at the CTC

Identification badges are recommended for school safety by the Department of Homeland Security. Beginning this year, students at the Career Technical Center will be required to wear a CTC picture ID when they are in the building.

Students will be issued a badge, which must be worn when outside their classroom or lab. It will be the responsibility of each student to maintain possession of their badge. Lost, damaged, or altered badges will be replaced at a cost to the student of \$5.00 each.

Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center

Credit, Certification, and Articulation Guide

Agriscience/Nat. Resources	Allied Health Technologies	Automotive Services
Senior Math	Senior Math	Senior Math
3rd-year Science	3rd-year Science	FSU Articulation
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	FSU Dual Enrollment Credit	University of Northwestern Ohio Articulation
Career Readiness Certificate	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Universal Tech Institute Articulation
	Red Cross CPR, First Aid Certificates	State Mechanic Certificate
	Certified Nursing Assistant Certification	(Brakes, Electrical, Steering Suspension)
		Career Readiness Certificate
Building Trades	Business Management Admin.	Computers & Electronics
Senior Math	Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
Kirtland Comm. College Articulation	Kirtland Comm. College Articulation	A+ Certification
M.A.I.P. Pre-Apprenticeship Program	MOUS Certification	Network + Certification
Career Readiness Certificate	Career Readiness Certificate	Digital Home Technology Integration Certification
		Career Readiness Certificate
Cosmetology	Electrical Occupations	Heavy Equipment Mechanics
Senior Math	Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
Kirtland Comm. College Articulation	Career Readiness Certificate	State Mechanic Certificate
Career Readiness Certificate		Refrigerant Recovery Certification
		Career Readiness Certificate
Hospitality, Retailing & Entrepreneurship	Machine Trades	Metal Fabrication
Senior Math	Senior Math	Senior Math
4th-year English	FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Visual Arts	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
FSU Articulation	Kirtland Comm. College Articulation	Welder Qualification Test Certification
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Career Readiness Certificate	Visual, Performing & Applied Arts
ServSafe Certificate		Career Readiness Certificate
Career Readiness Certificate		
Power Sports Equipment	Public Safety	FREE College Credits Available!!
Senior Math	Senior Math	
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	West Shore Comm. College Dual Enrollment Credit	
Mercury Marine Certification	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	
EETC Certification	Career Readiness Certificate	
Kohler Certification	First Aid - CPR	
State Mechanic Certification - Motorcycle		
Volvo-Penta Certification (pending)		
Career Readiness Certificate		



CTC National Technical Honor Society



The 2009-10 school year brings several new and exciting projects for the Wexford-Missaukee CTC National Technical Honor Society. The CTC has 36 returning NTHS members from its 2008-09 inaugural membership. NTHS members will maintain a 3.5 or better GPA, have five or fewer absences per semester and each member will volunteer for ten hours of community service. Our members have set a group goal of 500 community service hours for the 2009-10 school year.

Twenty-one NTHS members began their community service projects in September working on an Adopt-A-Highway project thru MDOT. Holly Smith (Manton, HRE), Matt McGinness (Lake City, Agriscience) and Tyler Smith (Mesick, Agriscience) volunteered to decorate orange construction cones, which will be displayed September 26 in downtown Cadillac for the United Way's Crazy Cone Contest during the Fall Festival.

On October 8, Todd Labs (Lake City, Auto Service) will provide information to senior citizens on "Winter Travel Survival" during the Council on Aging Get Ready for Winter project. NTHS members are organizing a Breast Cancer Awareness Day, October 22 with WMISD staff and CTC students wearing pink. Throughout the week of October 19-23, NTHS members will sell pink ribbons to students and staff and "Pink" ice cream as well as other activities to raise money for breast cancer awareness and research. We encourage all to join us on during the week of October 19-23 and donate to this cause.

The NTHS members are partnering with the United Way and Counsel on Aging on a variety of projects throughout the school year and are planning to speak about NTHS to all eight area school boards as well as the WM-ISD Board.

more effectively meet the educational districts whereby each district can requested by its constituent local educational and support services District is to provide high quality Missaukee Intermediate School The mission of the Wexford-

WMISD Mission Statement

Jackie Ruppel—Trustee
Daryl Morr—Trustee
Harold Kibbe—Trustee
Dean Smallegan—Secretary
Chris McTrimmmon—Treasurer
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**Wexford-Missaukee
Intermediate School District**
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