

Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District
Superintendent's Report
Thursday, March 9, 2017

William H. Lupini, Superintendent-Director

Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant Program

Earlier this week, the Baker-Polito Administration awarded \$11.8 million in Workforce Skills Capital Grants to 32 vocational schools, community colleges, and traditional public high schools, which will use the funds to purchase vocational technical equipment and expand skills training programs for careers in growing industries. This program was created by Administration last year to assist educational institutions in demonstrating partnerships with industry and aligning curriculum and credentials with local businesses' demand, maximizing planning objectives and hiring or internship opportunities regionally.

We are pleased to announce that Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District has been chosen as one of the recipients of the program. We will receive \$244k to update and expand our allied health career programs.

Our project will enhance and expand the existing allied health program to provide students with instruction and experiences that are not currently available because of the lack of certain equipment. Allied health is a critical driver in the North Shore economic engine and employment opportunities in the region are predicted to continue to grow. These funds will allow for the purchase of state-of-the-art training and medical equipment that students would find in the workplace. It will also allow high school health assisting students to participate in Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training during the school day and for the addition of both an evening EMT program and health assisting program as part of the District's adult education program to provide training for underemployed/unemployed adults.

While many people played a significant role in the development of this grant proposal, I want to particularly thank Maryellen Rancourt (Grants Coordinator) for her work in bringing this application and funding to fruition.

Following is a complete list of those institutions receiving funding through this program:

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District
Brockton High School
Bunker Hill Community College
Cape Cod Community College
Center for Manufacturing Technology
Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School
Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District
Franklin County Technical School
Gloucester High School
Greater Lowell Technical High School
Greenfield Community College
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative
Lynn Vocational Technical Institute
MassBay Community College
Massasoit Community College
McCann Technical School
Medford Technical High School
Middlesex Community College
Minuteman High School
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

Mount Wachusett Community College
Nashoba Valley Technical High School
North Shore Community College
Northern Essex Community College
Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School District
Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School
Plymouth Public Schools
Quincy Public Schools
Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical
South Regional Technical School District
Keefe Technical High School
Whitter Regional Vocational Technical High School

Massachusetts Girls in Trades Conference

Over 350 students and 50 educators from 22 high schools attended the Massachusetts Girls in Trades Conference at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 103 on March 2, 2017. Twenty-seven (27) students from Essex Technical High School participated in the conference.

This meeting is intended to provide students with information about career pathways in the construction trades from the perspective of unions, tradeswomen, state agencies, post-secondary institutions. In addition, the two workshops were designed to share the benefits of working in a union construction trade (and how to apply) with both educators and students.

Thanks to Kathleen Holman (Vocational Coordinator) and Jay Loring (Guidance Counselor and Administrative Intern) for chaperoning our students to this valuable experience.

Articulation Agreements

We are pleased to announce that agreements have recently been completed with North Shore Community College (Health Assisting and Culinary), Central Maine Community College (Graphics, Advanced Manufacturing, and Auto Technology), and Unity College of Maine (Natural Resources).

Information on all of our higher education agreements will soon be available on our website. Thanks to Carissa Karakaedos (Vocational Coordinator) for her terrific work on this important initiative.

Focus on Education

I will be speaking at the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce Focus on Education event, which will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at Gorton's in Gloucester. This meeting will allow me to talk with Chamber members about the school, our programs and students, with a focus on establishing cooperative education, internship, and advisory committee relationships.

FFA State Conference

Forty-eight (48) students will represent Essex Technical High School in fifteen (15) career development events at the upcoming FFA State Convention. The conference will take place from March 14-17 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel. Stephanie Dawe and Michaela Ramsey, both Class of 2016 ETHS graduates, will host the Convention as the State FFA President and Parliamentarian, respectively.

SkillsUSA District Competitions

Over 100 Essex Technical High School students will take part in SkillsUSA District Competition at Greater Lowell Technical High School on March 16, 2017. These students will take part in 28 skills- and leadership-based events. Both Matt Cunha (currently serving) and Megan Perry will be running for a state SkillsUSA office position. In addition, ETHS students will compete for the first time this year in a team works event, which involves students from carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and masonry working as a team to complete a three-day construction project.

The top two competitors in each competitive event will move on to state competition, which will be held on April 28, 2017 at the Marlborough Best Western Conference Center.

Advisory Committee Meeting

Nearly 300 representatives from industry, higher education, union boards, and cooperative education employers participated in our spring Advisory Committee meetings on Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Our program teachers facilitated conversations regarding curriculum, equipment, employment skills, industry needs, and potential certifications.

Thanks to Kathleen Holman and Carissa Karakaedos (Vocational Coordinators) and all of our CTE teachers for their outstanding work with Advisory Committees.

Adult Education

The 2016-2017 school year has been a successful one for our adult education programs. In addition to our fall offerings and year-long electrical program, the following courses have run during the spring semester:

- Phlebotomy
- Electrocardiogram
- Introduction to Baking and Pastry
- Microsoft Excel
- Automotive Technology
- Outboard Motors
- Small Engines
- Autobody Repair
- Introductory Woodworking

Thanks to Carissa Karakaedos (Vocational Coordinator) for her terrific work in initiating the revitalization of our adult education offerings.