

ALL-STARS OF THE ACADEMIES

A quarterly newsletter highlighting the students & staff at the Academies of Greater Clark

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Health Services Academy Spotlight



Noah Thompson is a senior at NWHS who plans to pursue a career in the healthcare industry. When asked about his favorite activity that he completed in his academy, he reflected on a trip to Clark Memorial Hospital. “We toured each section of the hospital and learned a bit about each job and what they do. Touring the hospital helped us realize there’s more in healthcare than just nursing and patient care.”



Hannah Shepherd is science teacher at NWHS with 7 years of teaching experience. She values the academy model for her students because “it provides the skills and certifications to help them be better prepared when they enter the workforce.”

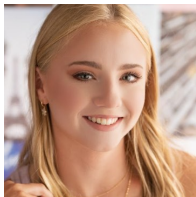


Emma Faulkner is a senior at CHS who has always had an interest in the medical field. Her favorite activity with her academy is their annual blood drive. She said that she loves planning, promoting, and facilitating the event because “I felt like I was helping people in the community around me; which is why I want to go into medicine.”



Delaina Snelling is a chemistry & physics instructor at CHS with nearly two decades of experience. She believes that students should join the Health Services Academy because it “provides students with opportunities to research careers in the health field” and “promotes an environment where students utilize cooperative learning strategies to foster teamwork and acceptance of diverse backgrounds and ideas.”

Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing Academy Spotlight



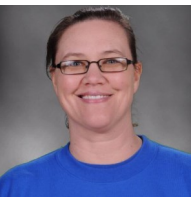
Ruby Dunn is a senior at JHS who originally joined the Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing Academy to broaden her perspective. Ruby says, “Before joining this academy I thought I wanted to be a doctor. When I took the *Civil Engineering & Architecture* class my junior year, it made me realize how much I loved engineering. Now I plan on attending college to become a civil engineer, and I could not be happier with my decision.”



Evan Meyers is a fifth-year, English 10 teacher at JHS. Students in his academy put their real-world problem solving abilities to the test as they craft an “Island Survival Guide” notebook—which spurs from their reading of *Lord of the Flies*. He shares, “Engineering students love this project because it forces them to use a vital skill learned in English class—writing—with a scenario that keeps them interested in the course material.”



Joseph Branco is a senior at NWHS who wants to work in the construction industry and eventually own his own construction company. He acknowledges that his career pathway courses exposed him to a variety of construction-related activities—from welding to carpentry to electrical wiring—and has helped him with “building a house from the ground up” while at Prosser.



Michelle McCutcheon is a math teacher at NWHS who is now in her third decade of education. When asked why students should join her academy, she said “We try to provide a learning community in which all of our students are successful in the classroom and outside the classroom. Our activities promote communication and responsibility. We try to instill a work ethic that will help them succeed post high school.”

Public Service Academy Spotlight



Karla Martinez-Angeles is a senior at JHS who initially joined her academy because of her interest in becoming a social worker. However, as she gained more exposure to that career and other public service-oriented career paths, she decided to focus on Cosmetology. She acknowledges that she will be more prepared for life after high school because of her academy. “The public service academy has prepared me with different opportunities. It has allowed me to take classes that focus on diversity, relationships, etc.”



Stephanie Niemi has 28 years of education experience and currently is an English teacher at JHS for special needs students. When asked about the real-world experiences that she provides to her students, she said, “I try and incorporate real world writing in my classroom such as journaling, writing professional emails to businesses, and creating a resume and cover letter.” She goes on to state, “The academy model has helped me create more realistic lessons for students in the English classroom, which will better prepare them for life after high school.”

Business & Entrepreneurship Academy Spotlight



Julien Cox is a senior at CHS who was originally in the Public Service Academy, but made a switch to the Business & Entrepreneurship Academy once he realized how that academy could support his pursuit of a career in the film industry. He explains, “The business academy establishes the principles of business, managing your own, etc. In a career where I need to fend for and build a name for myself, a strong foundation in business prepares me for both. The work in the academy makes me feel better about going into the career after college.”



Melissa Stewart is in her 23rd year of teaching, where she currently teaches Radio & TV pathway courses at CHS. She says her students get “real-world experiences every day by being the premiere provider of news and information for Charlestown High School.” The production of daily radio shows for the entire community to hear puts her students in the public’s eye, and she says that is as “real-world as a high school class can get.”