

Freshmen Academy Spotlight at the Academies of Greater Clark



Tristan Cooley is a freshman at JHS who will be joining the Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing Academy in the upcoming school year. Tristan said that his Freshmen Seminar class has been really useful to him. He stated, “It helped me to narrow down my career choices, and it revealed new career paths I had not considered. I also learned how to fill out college applications and how to write a job resume. These skills will benefit me in the real world.” When asked about his favorite experience in the Freshmen Academy, he said, “Out of all of the assignments in my Freshman Seminar class, my favorite project was one we did near the beginning of the year. Using YouScience, we had to take several tests to determine our aptitudes and interests. Based on our answers, the program gave us an extensive list of careers to consider pursuing. Before taking my Freshmen Seminar class, I did not have a good idea of what I wanted to do for a career. After reading more about the careers that were mentioned on my YouScience list, I am planning on pursuing aerospace or mechanical engineering.”



Jacqueline Means is a member of the Freshmen Academy Team at NWMHS who World Languages, as well as Spanish I, II, III, & IV. She has been teaching for nearly three decades, with her previous six years of teaching experience occurring at NWMHS. She is really looking forward to next school year, where she will be teaching one section of the Freshmen Seminar course. While this will be her first time teaching it, as a member of the Freshmen Academy Team, she is very familiar with the curriculum and what happens throughout the year in that course. When asked about the beneficial aspects of this course, she said, “I think that a valuable experience that students in the Freshman Academy receive is the field trip to a 4 year college (public and private), and a field trip to Ivy Tech. I think it is helpful for students to learn more about their post high school options.” When she was then asked about the overall importance of the class, she shared, “Students say that the class provides real life training and experience - how to write a resume, balance a budget, and apply to college.”



Ivan Garcia is a rising sophomore at CHS who really enjoyed taking Freshmen Seminar during the 23-24 school year. Looking back at his time in the Freshmen Seminar class, Ivan stated, “The class has helped me prepare for the future by understanding what to expect and how to get into the college I'm wanting to attend.” He further emphasized this point when asked what he liked the most about the class. Ivan shared, “I enjoyed learning about different colleges and what they expect from a student who are wanting to attend there. This knowledge will allow me to be prepared to make the right decision for my future.”



Kayla Bryant is a soon-to-be sophomore at Charlestown High School. Kayla felt that her Freshmen Seminar class was extremely beneficial, and will help her be ready for whatever is next in life. When asked to say more about how the course benefited her, Kayla said, “It has helped me prepare for the future by helping figure out what I want to do and pursue in the future. It has shown me that achieving your goal will take time but you will get there.” Kayla was then prompted to elaborate about her favorite experience in this class, and she replied, “My favorite assignment from my Freshman Seminar would be the college presentations. Researching about colleges that I could possibly go to in the future was very interesting. Having to research all of the requirements, cost of room and board, and all of the fun activities. Doing these presentations taught me the importance of continuing my education and going to college. So when I plan on attending college I will already know what to look for.”