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Conway School Board Report – February 12, 2024

The following report highlights significant activities and achievements in our various career and technical education programs.

Outdoor Recreation: The Outdoor Recreation program at Mount Washington Valley Career and Technical Center (MWVCTC), in collaboration with CAST/UNH, is thrilled to present the project's outcomes. We achieved an impressive 96% retention rate among youth participants throughout the ten-month duration of the project. This statistic is particularly remarkable, considering that participation was optional.

Findings from the research:

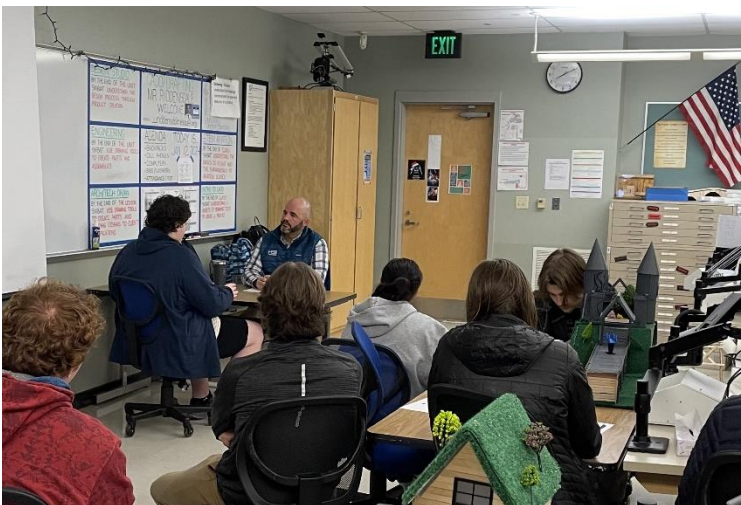
- **Participants shared their ideas using ORfolio.** Over the 10-month research period, 54 youth co-researchers submitted 630 responses to 25 challenges. Among the 630 challenge submissions, 180 included a picture or drawing, and 93 included a video.
- **Monthly check-in meetings were critical.** Students who attended the monthly check-in meetings completed more challenges and provided more robust and sophisticated responses.
- **Youth see STEM in outdoor recreation.** Throughout the study, youth remained engaged and thoughtful about its impact on their perceptions of STEM. “Before this project, I didn’t want anything to do with STEM, but now I want my future to involve STEM.” —10th-grade KHS co-researcher
- **Positioning youth as co-researchers fosters engagement.** Future studies with rural youth would benefit from positioning youth as co-researchers and utilizing UDL strategies to foster engagement. Hear directly what students thought about the project: [video](#) and the critical role they played in the success of our work together!

This project garnered the attention of the United States Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland. Consequently, Secretary Haaland requested a roundtable discussion with the researchers, and four of our students were chosen to advocate on behalf of the 54 students involved in the project. We were privileged to participate in this significant roundtable discussion held at the University of New Hampshire, where we engaged in dialogue with Secretary Haaland and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Martha Williams regarding youth engagement with the outdoors in New Hampshire. The students from Kennett High School and the Mount Washington Valley Career and Technical Center represented themselves admirably during the discussion.



What's next? UNH has submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation to expand the work to include NH and several other states. We're also spreading the word about project outcomes to the STEM education research community, informal science educators, and outdoor industry workforce stakeholders through articles, presentations, and social media. You can help by sharing this information.

CADD (Joe Riddensdale): CADD and Engineering students participated in mock interviews with members of the CADD Advisory Committee. Resume and cover letter writing sessions, as well as lots of practice and coaching on public speaking, preceded this culminating event.



Criminal Justice (Terry Ballou): A few weeks ago, Criminal Justice students were “day” guests of the Northern NH Correctional Facility in Berlin. Corrections are one of the three fundamental pillars of the US Criminal Justice system. Understanding the processes that occur after conviction is a crucial aspect of our program. The Berlin facility is recognized as a progressive institution emphasizing secure, humane supervision, evidence-based rehabilitation, and the promotion of public safety. These principles are upheld through a commitment to respect, professionalism, dedication, and courage, fostering a collaborative team environment.



Student Spotlight: Every quarter the CT teachers select a student from their program that has shown an exceptional work ethic and academic achievement. Quarter 2’s recipients are:

Marketing: Vincent Roman - Vincent is a dedicated and passionate student. He truly stood out during the final project of the semester, where he created a company and all of the marketing materials to go with it. Vincent's creativity shone brightly as he approached the project with innovative ideas, pushing the boundaries of conventional thinking. His passion fueled his motivation and inspired his peers, creating a collaborative and dynamic atmosphere. Ultimately, Vincent's final project was nothing short of impressive, a testament to his unwavering dedication, creative prowess, and genuine enthusiasm for Marketing!

Visual Media: Gavin Helvie - Gavin is an exemplary student eager to practice and learn new video editing techniques during his class blocks and weekly flex sessions for Intro to Videography. While exceeding class expectations, he has also taken it upon himself to make several video edits encompassing various interests outside of the classroom.

ELO - Ayden King - Ayden is a very driven student. He took on a demanding ELO to help the Career Tech Center promote what alumni have accomplished post-graduation. His work ethic and attention to detail are top-notch!

Construction Trades: James Dingman - James is one of the hardest workers in my advanced-level class. He also takes pride in what he is working on to make sure the project is 100 percent. James works well with other students and is a leader in my class. He also shines when it comes to working alone on projects and assignments. He is a pleasure to have in my shop.

Business Education: Sophia Hanson - Sophia has been a fantastic part of the MWVCTC Business Education program during her time at Kennett. She is creative, hard-working, and thorough in her work and has always been enthusiastic about our learning this semester. It has been such a pleasure to work with her!! Congratulations on your graduation!!!

Outdoor Recreation: Lisette Robbins - Lizzie arrived at Kennett with strong background knowledge and experience in the outdoors. She has taken full advantage of Outdoor Rec opportunities so far, completing the SOLO Wilderness First Aid course, contributing to classroom discussions, being active in the outing club, and getting after it on the weekends - climbing rock and ice outside or on her home wall, and ski racing.

Computer Science: Austin Roberts - Although quiet and reserved, Austin has an explosive talent. He spends a good chunk of his time exploring how to code, creating many different games using Python, and going out of his way to challenge himself.

Culinary Arts: Tiana Wiggin - Tiana is a Culinary 2 student interested in exploring a career in culinary arts. She also assisted with our Intro to Culinary class as a Teacher's aide. She can be depended on to show up on time and prepared with a good attitude. She carries herself very professionally in class, in the kitchen, or at a catered event. She is respectful and ambitious, frequently seeking new projects and work that must be done. She rarely lets unimportant interruptions negatively affect the quality of her work. She is a member of our ProStart Culinary competition team. She will be studying culinary at SMCC in the Fall of 2024.

Criminal Justice: Logan Troon - Logan is a hard worker who comes to class daily ready to work and enthusiastic about learning. He adds significantly to our classroom discussions and is a leader in group projects. He has great lawyerly instincts and excelled in our Mock Trial.

CADD: Nolan Proulx - Nolan Proulx continually exceeds expectations for the quality and work ethic of his projects. He demonstrates a high-caliber work ethic every day. He always uses class time to focus on his work. Nolan will also maximize his FLEX time by deepening his learning or adding value to his already amazing projects.

Advanced Manufacturing: Lincoln Garland - Lincoln is a hard-working young man who goes above and beyond to complete projects every day. He is also a leader of the NASA/HUNCH program.

Teacher Education: Jillian Howland - Jillian is an incredibly kind soul thriving in our Child Growth & Development class. Her smile lights up the room, and her caring and compassionate nature helps put everyone around her at ease. Returning to our program as a junior, Jillian naturally fell into a leadership role within her class community, which she has not taken for granted. Jillian continues to challenge herself daily and is always looking for ways to have a bigger impact in everything she takes on, whether completing her first book of the year or working with the preschoolers at Children Unlimited; Jillian's dedication to learning is commendable.

Automotive Technology: Noah Mehilis - Noah consistently attends class with unwavering commitment, displaying remarkable attentiveness. He diligently retrieves assignments promptly, ensuring a proactive approach to academic responsibilities. Moreover, he actively participates in various shop activities, demonstrating enthusiasm and a hands-on approach to practical learning experiences.

