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# Conway School Board Report February 13, 2023

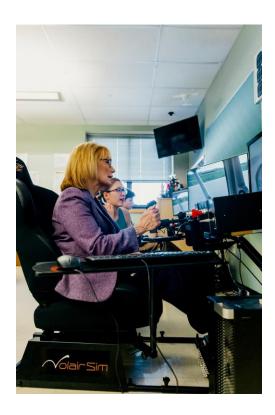
**Professional Activities of CT Staff:** The Teacher Workshop Day in January focused on two very important elements crucial to the success of students at KHS/MWVCTC. The first half of our professional development time was dedicated to reinforcing our SOAR expectations with teachers and unveiling an updated version of the behavior matrix to assist teachers with managing disruptive behaviors in the classroom. The second half of our time together was spent sharing STAR portfolios from semester 1. The teachers brought 2-3 student portfolios (electronic and physical) and through a "gallery walk" took notes, critiqued, and discussed amongst themselves the body of evidence presented in each portfolio. Because the Center's programs are all so different, it was a very valuable learning experience for all.

**Chamber "Before Hours" Event:** On January 17, we had the honor of holding the MWV Chamber of Commerce's very first "Before Hours" networking event. Traditionally this event is held once a month in the evening; however, new director, Michelle Cruz decided to hold a morning event to attract more members reluctant to come out in the evenings during the winter months. Approximately 30 Chamber members joined us for a lovely breakfast buffet prepared by the Culinary Arts students.





**Senator Hassan Visit to MWVCTC:** NH Senator Maggie Hassan toured the MWVCTC on her visit to the North Country. Student ambassadors were her tour guides and she learned a lot about how we incorporate STEM into almost every program in the Center. She was very impressed and vowed to continue funding of CTE through the Carl D. Perkins Grant funding. Ms. Hassan even took a turn in the flight simulator, instructed by Aviation student, Molly DellaValla, who was quite impressed that the senator did not crash the plane.





**Aviation:** Three of our advanced Aviation students traveled to Maine to take the FAA's private pilot written exam and all three passed! Months of studying, attending ground school, and taking flight lessons paid off. Perspective: There are about 2 million pilots in the world. There are just over 160,000 private pilots in the US. There are 1,494 private pilots in the state of NH (soon to be 1,497). Many thanks to our ace instructor Joe Riddensdale, the Eastern Slope Aviation Academy, Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (AOPA), and the NH DOE for providing the resources to start our STEM Aviation & Aerospace program.



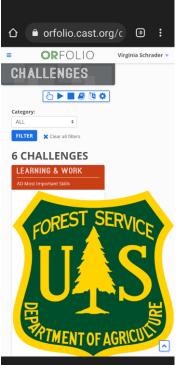
**Outdoor Recreation:** MWVCTC is partnering with The University of New Hampshire and CAST (www.cast.org) to understand the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills and learning that naturally occurs in outdoor activities. Through our year-long research project, we want to know if activities like hunting, cross-country skiing, fishing, snowmobiling, etc., could be harnessed to help rural learners develop STEM skills and ultimately lead to high-wage, high-skill STEM careers. The first step is to understand where youth and adults see STEM in the outdoor activities they engage in and where they might be learning STEM skills without even realizing it. This project was started by the NH Charitable Foundation and is now funded through the National Science Foundation.

Activities for our students include:

- Students and outdoor professionals participated in 1 full-day training on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023 at the AMC Highland Center in Crawford Notch;
- 1x/month (January-October) students take photos and/or videos showcasing outdoor activities they are already engaged in and upload them to ORfolio (picture below), an online platform we are beta testing with the students to track STEM competencies;
- Check-in 1 per month with a researcher to answer questions and provide feedback;
- Students and outdoor professionals participate in 1 final full-day reflection in the winter of 2023.







**Project Bike Tech**: Under the umbrella of Outdoor Recreation, our first bicycle technician class started the second semester. Project Bike Tech works to enhance lives, create opportunities and build sustainable communities through bicycle education. It is an accredited program that uses bicycle mechanics as a conduit to teach STEM. Students completing this course receive an Industry Recognized Credential (IRC) in bicycle mechanical building and repair.









Further, in early February, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that it will create a plan to expand recreation economies to help people thrive across rural America, which is supported by the Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation. Through a Memorandum of Understanding, USDA Rural Development, the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and the U.S. Forest Service will partner to develop an annual plan to expand economic opportunities related to recreation in communities surrounding America's national forests. MWVCTC is thrilled to support this effort and help rural communities around the United States develop sustainable recreation economies to benefit communities, public health, and economic development.

**KMS Visits MWVCTC:** Last week, Casey Foye accompanied two separate groups of KMS students to the Center for a tour of our 14 programs. The students were very nervous at first, but after visits to different classrooms and labs and meeting teachers and current students, they felt much more comfortable about their move up to the high school in the fall.





## **Student Spotlight Q2:**

## **Construction Trades** - Liza Graustein

Liza has been one of the hardest working students who has come into my shop. She is one of my go-to students in my advanced-level class. Her work ethic is 100 percent. Liza's work ethic is catching and she pushes this on to other students in the class. Liza is also on my SkillsUSA team and has been for the last two years.

# ELO - Zach Moore

Zach approaches his ELO at the Fire Department with unmatched enthusiasm. He jumped into Fire and Rescue with both feet and has been motivated to learn all he can. Zach is always striving to do better. He also adds a lot to the culture at the station and is a great team player.

## Culinary Arts - Evan Morin

Evan is a Culinary 2 student very interested in exploring a career in culinary arts. He can be depended on to show up on time and prepared with a good attitude. Whether in class, the kitchen or at a catered event, he carries himself very professionally. He is respectful and ambitious frequently seeking out new projects and work that needs to be done. He never lets unimportant interruptions negatively affect the quality of his work. We are grateful to have him as a returning member of our ProStart Culinary competition team.

#### **Criminal Justice** - Carmen Adams

Carmen is an outstanding student who has a genuine interest in Criminal Justice. She participates in class discussions, asks provoking questions, and has the instincts of a lawyer. She is a hard worker and a

great role model for the class. I look forward to having Carmen next quarter in my Advanced Criminal Justice class.

#### STEM Aviation - Molly DellaValla

Molly has demonstrated an exemplary work ethic in studying for her FAA written exam. She has passed both the ground school test and the online and classroom portions with excellent results.

#### **CADD/Engineering** - Abigail Virgin

Abby has gone above and beyond her classroom responsibilities and created a digital template for the STAR review for all students to use. Her work ethic is outstanding and her time management skills are always on full display. Abby meets with me during her free block and often sacrifices lunch to work on these additional responsibilities she has elected to take on.

#### **Business Education** - Jake Graziano

Jake Graziano is a motivated and collaborative business student currently enrolled in business law. Cool as a cucumber with a steely-eyed exterior, Jake is less concerned with what the grade on the paper says and more concerned with actually learning something. Regardless, his grades are better than yours and he's probably going to make more money than you, too.

#### Advanced Manufacturing - Ben Biche

Ben has become the leader of Advanced Manufacturing. His impeccable work ethic and willingness to go above and beyond no matter what the job, make him the most worthy candidate for Student Spotlight.

#### Visual Media Arts - Turner Viger

Turner has shown a great work ethic and a desire to go above and beyond expectations in his first class in the Visual Media program. He takes every project to the next level by teaching himself skills to make his projects more advanced and dynamic and utilizing tools not covered in an intro class. He shows great potential in this industry.

#### **Computer Science** - Matt McKinney

Matt is inquisitive and focused. He applies himself to the computer science process and takes extra initiative to try new things. He actively adds new and creative features to his projects that make his work stand out.

#### **Teacher Education** - Remington Snowdon

Remi is a leader in and out of the classroom for students of all ages. Her passion for learning, whether leading a rainbow table activity, working one-on-one with a struggling student, running morning meetings or making magic happen behind the scenes, makes her a well-known entity in our community schools and our own classroom. With her heart on her sleeve, she is able to quickly connect with kiddos of all ages, earning their trust and supporting their learning on a daily basis. It will be my pleasure to visit Miss Snowdon in her future classroom, her kiddos will be very lucky to have her on their side.

#### Marketing - Trinity Butler

Trinity has done a great job in Marketing II this semester. She is very professional and collaborative with her classmates. She has a tremendous work ethic and has done a fantastic job throughout her time in the Marketing program. She is always willing to help in the school store or organize the classroom. If something needs to be done, she is willing to put in the extra work to make it happen. Her classwork is

well thought out and very thorough. She has shown competence in all areas of marketing and will be able to carry them into her future endeavors.

# Automotive - Kameron Weir

Kam is a first-year Intro Auto student. He comes to class prepared and on time. He takes care of his paperwork first, then heads to the shop to work on a project of his own or to help others. Kam says he has the skills and he appreciates having a place to use them.

