



miDream students at the 2018 Connections Conference with former VALEES Director, Roger Sanders.

# VALEES Activities Report

## Spring 2018

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

## Program Committees

### December 12, 2017—Steering Committee Business Advisory Visits.

The Steering Committee toured FONA, a local flavor company, and Auto Machine, a custom machine shop. Educators met with industry professionals, discussed industry trends, and toured each facility.

**January 19, 2018—Culinary Arts Program Committee Meeting.** Regional culinary teachers met to tour East Aurora High School's newly renovated culinary area, share curriculum ideas, and sample a meal planned and made by EA culinary students.

**January 31, 2018—Fashion & Clothing Program Committee Meeting.** FACS educators met and toured the newly renovated FACS wing of East Aurora High School. Attendees also discussed the new FACS program matrix created by ISBE, shared curriculum ideas, and toured the renovated classrooms.

**February 13, 2018—Auto Business Advisory Meeting.** Auto Tech and Auto Body educators met with business advisors and discussed industry trends, certifications and program support.

**March 2, 2018—Annual All Day In-Service, Building Partnerships for America's Future.** This annual professional development event served over 250 regional CTE educators. This event had 27 breakout sessions targeting everything from Dual Credit to implementing a drone program. Several business advisory committees also met during this in-service to help educators improve their programs. The keynote speaker, Brooks Harper, was highly praised by attendees and his energetic speech set a positive tone for the event.

**April 5, 2018—Steering Committee,** topics included completing final reporting for FY18 grants and planning for FY19 grant writing. A Xello representative also gave a presentation on the features of Xello and how they align to the On PaCE to Thrive framework.

## Upcoming Program Committee Activities

**April 17, 2018—Coordinating Council.**

**April 18, 2018—Student Services.** Counselors will meet at Kishwaukee College to tour three CTE programs: heavy-duty diesel mechanics, esthetics and horticulture.



## GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS BOOTCAMP

Students from 6 schools and 2 Career Centers worked with industry professionals to complete a design project.



## miDREAM STUDENTS AT THE 2018 CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

Students participating in the miDream program, prepared and led a presentation for educators at the 2018 Connections Conference.

# Upcoming Program Committees Activities (Cont.)

**April 24, 2018—Cooperative Education & Work-Based Learning Program Committee Meeting.** This meeting will discuss regional work-based learning programs. Julie Bechtold, Waubensee Community College Career Development Center, will present on topics including O\*Net resources, Applicant Tracking Systems, and the SOAR method of resume writing.

**May 1, 2018—Technology & Engineering (Industrial) Program Committee Meeting.** Committee members will meet at the Technology and Manufacturing Association in Schaumburg for a tour and discussion of partnership opportunities for teachers and schools at TMA. Afternoon tour TBD.



*Desserts created by East Aurora High School Culinary students.*

## Student Events

### December 6, 2017—Job Shadow.

VALEES assisted Plano High School to set up a job shadow opportunity at Waubensee Community College, for several students interested in IT and media service careers.

### January 26, 2018—miDream Workshop.

The miDream program helps students learn networking skills, career options and entrepreneurship tools. This meeting prepared students to present at the Connections Conference in Tinley Park, IL.

### February 7, 2018—Graphic Communications Student Bootcamp.

Regional graphic students from Batavia H.S., Oswego and Oswego East H.S., Indian Valley Vocational Center and Fox Valley Career Center, met at Oswego High School for a skill building workshop. Students divided into teams, and worked together to create an appealing food truck design package. Local business advisors were on hand to help them improve their communication and technical skills.

### February 20, 2018—CTE Showcase: Health Care.

This showcase allowed regional students from West Aurora H.S and the Fox Valley Career Center to tour the newly renovated Health Care complex at the Aurora Fox Valley Campus of Waubensee Community College.

**February 28, 2018—2018 IDEA Regional Drafting Competition.** Students from West Aurora H.S., Waubensee Valley H.S., Aurora

Central H.S., Plano H.S., and Oswego East H.S., participated in this annual competition at Waubensee Community College. First and second place teams moved on to the state competition. We look forward to their success.

**March 8, 2018—Auto Open House and National Signing Day.** Business advisory members and auto faculty invited regional high school students to explore the Auto Tech and Auto Body Repair programs at Waubensee Community College. Students from Fox Valley Career Center, Oswego and Oswego East H.S., East Aurora H.S., and Indian valley Vocational Center attended. The event was live-streamed and several students signed commitments to apply to the auto program.

**March 8, 2018—Connections Conference Presentation.** miDream students from Oswego and Oswego East H.S., Kaneland H.S., Newark H.S. and Somonauk H.S., led a 2-hour presentation at the 2018 Connections Conference. Students explained the benefits of the miDream program and how it impacts their lives.

**March 21, 2018—Trade Trips.** Students, educators and counselors visited 4 local trade schools. Students were given facility tours, apprenticeship and Union benefit information.

**March 22, 2018—CTE Showcase Men in Health Care.** This showcase, just for young men, highlighted the many great paying health care careers available to men.



*Above: Educators at Building Partnerships for America's Future all day in-service touring The Fishermen's Inn.*

*Below: Students at the annual IDEA competition, displaying their awards.*



## VALEES TEAM

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Students at the IDEA competition speaking with their "jailor," as they attempt to complete an Escape Room challenge.

## Upcoming Student Events

**April 6, 2018—Graphic Student of the Year Competition.** Business advisors and educators reviewed the portfolios of graphic students and selected one student as this year's Graphic Student of the Year.

**April 11, 2018—Welding Student of the Year Competition.** The third annual Welding Student of the year competition will be held at Indian Valley Vocational Center. Business advisors and welding teachers will observe and judge the quality of regional student's work. One student will be selected as the Welding Student of the Year.

**April 13, 2018—CTE Showcase: Kinesiology & Therapeutic Massage.** This event invites students to learn about careers and course offerings for Kinesiology and Therapeutic Massage.

**April 17, 2018—Debugging the Gender Gap.** This event targets young women who are nontraditional for IT careers. The evening consists of a film screening and panel discussion. Panel members include Katherine Cost, Chief Information Officer at Cabot Microelectronics and Michelle Middendorf Senior Design Engineer, of Caterpillar.

**April 20, 2018—Trade Trips.** Schools unable to participate in the trades trips on March 21<sup>st</sup>, will take students to the Pipefitters and Operators training centers.

**April 25, 2018—Spring Manufacturing Visit Day.** The Valley Industrial Association (VIA) offers grants to pay for lunches, transportation and substitute costs to provide students an opportunity to tour local manufacturers and learn about career paths within manufacturing. VIA and VALEES send approximately 500 students per year on these visits.

**May 4, 2018—Fire Science Challenge.** Each year Waubonsee Community College hosts a regional fire Science students to compete.



Students admire a 2018 Mustang at the Auto Open House

**Did you know?**

*The VALEES region consists of 17 High Schools, 2 Career Centers and a Special Education Cooperative*

**Valley Education for  
Employment System**  
Rt. 47 at Waubonsee Dr.  
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

**SAVE THE DATE:**

## **Summer Counselor Institute**

June 19 and 20, 2018

Locations TBD



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Pleasure in the job  
Puts perfection in the work

-Aristotle

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2018 Graphic Communications Bootcamp at Oswego High School.