



2017 Burger Cook-Off Winners: John Davis and Genero Perez, West Aurora High School.

# VALEES Activities Update

## Fall 2017

### CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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## Program Committees

VALEES kicked off this school year with a flurry of activity in September and October. Over the course of 8 weeks, VALEES staff facilitated, supported or attended 27 events. These events served over 1,000 regional students and staff in this short time.

Program committees that met were as follows:

**September 20, 2017—Student Services**, met to review the articulated credit process for students, update approved programs, discuss mini-grants and plan future events.

**September 27, 2017—Technology and Engineering Education**, toured the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association in Elgin, learned about industry trends, entry-level employment, certifications and technical/academic skills needed for these careers. Participants also discussed program goals for the year, future events and resource sharing.

**September 28, 2017—Health Occupations**, toured Northwestern Medicine, Delnor Hospital, participants learned about different career paths, volunteer and career opportunities for students and industry trends. Next, attendees toured Fox Valley Career Center's Health Occupations program, and planned future events.

**September 29, 2017—Kinesiology/Sports Medicine**, the inaugural meeting of this committee, held at Indian Valley Vocational Center, was spent developing goals for this committee, and learning about the course offerings for students in Waubensee Community College's complementary program.

**October 18, 2018—Graphic Communications**, this committee met at Batavia High School to tour the graphics program there. Attendees discussed lab set-up design, curriculum, instructional practice and business partners. The committee also planned the outline for the Graphic's Bootcamp, Portfolio Day and Student of the Year projects.

**October 25, 2017—Automotive Technology & Auto Body Repair**, met to discuss and plan the events for the year including professional skills development, Waubensee's Auto Skills Competition, the Auto Open House, and the Advisory Dinner.

**November 7, 2017—Business, Marketing & Computer Education**, met to discuss freshmen requirements for each school, plan another bootcamp and discuss important program information.



### MANUFACTURING CAREER AWARENESS DAY

Students from 11 schools and 1 Career Center visited 16 manufacturing companies on Oct. 20, 2017.

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### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION VISIT DAY

Nearly 200 regional students visited Waubensee to explore the ECE program.

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# Program Committees

## (Cont.)

**November 9, 2017—Fashion & Clothing**, this committee met at Creative Sewing in Geneva, IL for a technical skills development workshop.

**December 1, 2017—miDream Workshop**, This event continued to build upon the material from previous workshops and gave students more tools to use to succeed after high school.

**December 4, 2017—Early Childhood Education**, toured the ECE program at West Aurora High School and discussed the Early Childhood Visit Day and upcoming events.

VALEES staff attended several conferences, Coordinating Council meetings, and program/school visits not listed here. Extra events this year included scheduling a tour of both regional career centers for Congressional Representative Randy Hultgren.



Students from Geneva High School arriving for the CTE Showcase: Pink Hard Hats.

### UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

**December 6, 2017—Student Service Meeting**

**December 12, 2017—Steering Committee Field Trip to FONA and Auto Machine.**

Check the VALEES calendar of Events at [www.valees.org](http://www.valees.org) to keep up to date.

## Student Events

Each year VALEES helps plan, coordinate, and run several events for students. This year, in place of the Career Pathways Expo, VALEES coordinated with Waubensee Community College to offer several targeted programs for CTE students called CTE Showcases.

**September 22, 2017—CTE Showcase: Pink Hard Hats.** This event served 112 female students interested in pursuing non-traditional careers. Participants toured WCC's Machine Tool Technology Lab, HVAC program and CAD/drafting programs.

**October 12, 2017—miDream Workshop.** The miDream program helps students learn networking skills, career options and entrepreneurship tools.

**October 13, 2017—Early Childhood Education Visit Day.** The ECE Visit Day is a great event that hosted 177 regional ECE students at WCC. Attending students heard from current and former students, meet faculty and attend skill-building workshops.

**October 17, 2017—CTE Showcase: Manufacturing Technology.** The Fox Valley Career Center sent nearly 70 students interested in Manufacturing Technology to WCC to explore technology and engineering programs at the college.

**October 20, 2017—Manufacturing Career Awareness Field Trips.** Each year VALEES partners with the Valley Industrial Association and local manufacturing companies to provide regional students company tours. These manufacturing grant funded trips provide students and teachers an authentic picture of the manufacturing field. This year nearly 300 students and 16 manufacturers participated.

**October 24, 2017—CTE Showcase: Healthcare.** Regional students, visited and toured the Aurora Fox Valley campus and learned about all the medical career pathways offered at WCC. This event served 66 students.

**October 27, 2017—CTE Showcase: Multimedia.** Just over 50 regional students visited WCC and toured the TV studio, audio booth and photography department. Students also interacted with a panel of WCC educators.

**October 27, 2017—2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Burger Cook-Off.** This year's competition was held in the newly remodeled City Center of Joliet Junior College's Culinary Arts program. The event saw 14 teams of students compete to create the tastiest, most properly prepared burger, as judged by the Chefs at JJC. West Aurora students Genero Perez and John Davis took 1<sup>st</sup> place.



Above: Educators at the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association tour.

Below: Students use the virtual welder at the Manufacturing Technology CTE Showcase.

