



May 2025 Board Report

Ted W. Paton
Associate Superintendent of CTE/Principal

Projected Enrollment Summary: 2025–2026 School Year

The Ionia County Career Center is seeing exceptionally high demand for the 2025–2026 school year. As of March 12, 2025, 391 of the 416 available seats have been filled, representing a 93.99% utilization rate. This strong early enrollment highlights the growing recognition of the Career Center's high-quality programming and the continued importance of career and technical education across our county. This year's enrollment period was marked by slot wars, as districts and counselors moved quickly to secure placements for students in the most sought-after programs. Six of our ten programs—Construction Technology, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Diesel Technology, Machine Tool, and Plant/Animal Science—reached 100% capacity almost immediately, resulting in a combined waitlist of 114 students. The largest waitlists were in Machine Tool (28 students), Culinary Arts (25), and Criminal Justice (19). Several additional programs are nearing capacity, including Educational Careers at 93.75% filled, Computer Programming at 90.63%, and Healthcare Foundations at 86.36%. The only program with notable room remaining is Health Occupations, which currently sits at 68.18%

enrollment. These figures reflect strong student interest in the Career Center's continued role in preparing students for meaningful post-secondary pathways.

Scholarship Award Announcement – Ionia FFA Chapter

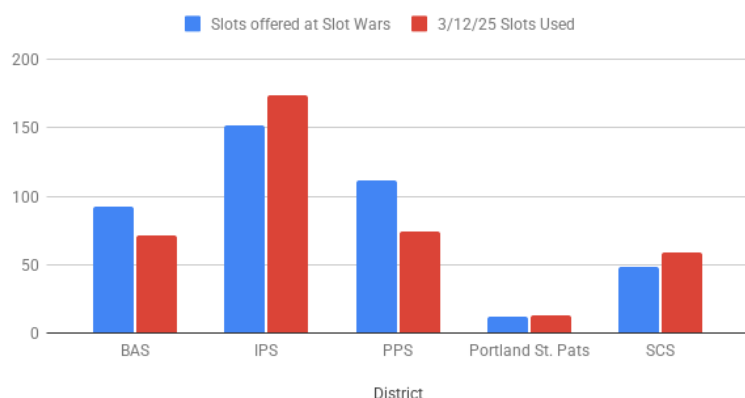
We are proud to report that Louis Smith, a student member of the Ionia FFA Chapter, has been awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from the National FFA Organization and Kaleidoscope. This national recognition highlights Louis's commitment to academic excellence, leadership, and involvement in agricultural education. This achievement reflects positively on both Louis and the strength of the FFA program in our district.



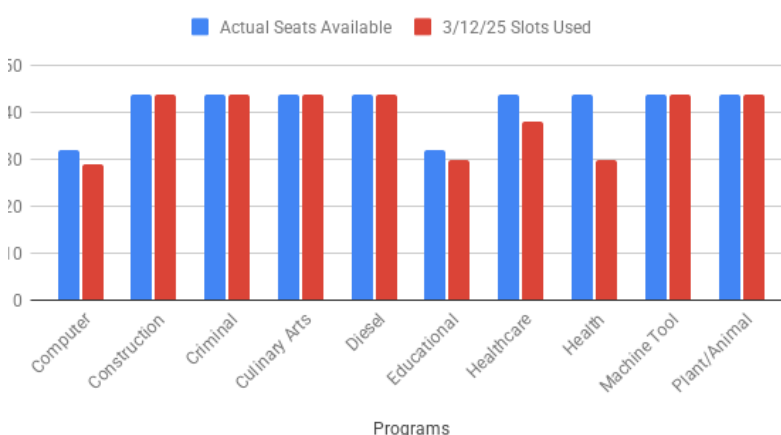
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

LOUIS SMITH

Slots offered at Slot Wars and 3/12/25 Slots Used



Actual Seats Available and 3/12/25 Slots Used



Scholarship Interviews

Career Center students who applied for scholarships participated in their interviews — and they truly excelled. Their professionalism, preparation, and poise were commendable and reflect the strength of our programs and staff support. We extend our sincere thanks to our outstanding interview panel: Beth Geldhof, Bridgett Flannigan, Robin Wirth, and Anne Sharkey-Scott. Their

time, insight, and thoughtful evaluation were invaluable in helping recognize and support deserving students.



Annual Awards Ceremony

We are pleased to announce that the Ionia County Career Center will host its annual Awards Ceremony on **Monday, May 6th**. This event celebrates the achievements, growth, and dedication of our students across all programs. It is an opportunity to recognize outstanding academic performance, technical skill development, leadership, and community involvement. Families, staff, and community partners are invited to attend as we honor students who have demonstrated excellence throughout the year. The ceremony also serves as a reflection of the hard work and commitment of our educators and the strong partnerships that support student

success. We look forward to celebrating these accomplishments and showcasing the positive impact of career and technical education in Ionia County.



Wagon

Wheel

Scholarship Fundraiser

Our recent fundraiser, held in partnership with the Wagon Wheel Restaurant, raised \$150 for our Student Advisory Scholarship. This generous contribution will directly support scholarships for our students, helping them pursue their educational and career goals. A special thank you goes to the Wagon Wheel Restaurant for their support, as well as to everyone who participated and donated. Your generosity plays a vital role in empowering our students and enhancing their educational experience

Peanut Butter & Jelly Drive

A huge thank you to all ICCC students and staff who participated in the @imkids3rdmeal Peanut Butter & Jelly Drive! Thanks to your generosity, we successfully collected 54 jars of peanut butter and 31 jars of jelly, which will directly benefit children in need. Your support makes a real

and lasting difference in the lives of others, and we are incredibly grateful for your continued commitment to our community.



Bring Your Kid to Work Day 2025

We had an incredible time hosting *Bring Your Kid to Work Day* at the Ionia County Career Center! The event was a wonderful opportunity to welcome the next generation into our workplace. It was inspiring to see so many curious young minds engaging with staff, asking thoughtful questions, and exploring what it means to be part of a professional environment. From hands-on activities to guided tours, the day was filled with energy, enthusiasm, and

plenty of smiles. We're proud to foster a community that values learning, family, and future possibilities.



CNA Success

We are proud to share that 30 out of 35 Health Occupations students earned their Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certification this year, resulting in an outstanding 86% pass rate. This achievement is a testament to the students' commitment, the support of our dedicated instructors, and the strength of our career and technical education programming. Earning a CNA credential is a significant milestone that opens doors to immediate employment opportunities in the healthcare field and lays the foundation for continued medical education. Many of these students will now be eligible to work in hospitals, nursing homes, and other care facilities, gaining valuable real-world experience before they even graduate. We commend our

students for their perseverance and professionalism, and we look forward to seeing them continue to thrive as future healthcare professionals.

Anna Edick – Teresa Marvin Peer



Mentor Award

Anna Edick, the recipient of this year's Teresa Marvin Peer Mentor Award. This award is presented to a student who has *voluntarily* invested their time in supporting peers with disabilities and demonstrates a true passion for making a difference. Anna's dedication to fostering an inclusive and supportive school community is both inspiring and impactful. Whether offering guidance, encouragement, or

simply a listening ear, Anna consistently goes out of her way to ensure every student feels seen, valued, and empowered. Her actions reflect a deep sense of empathy and a genuine commitment to helping others thrive. Anna is not only a role model among her peers but a shining example of how one person's compassion and initiative can change lives. We congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition and thank her for the positive influence she brings to our school every day.

