

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD REPORT - MARCH 2019

Submitted by Jackie Ahlgren

CTE Program Pushes For Growth

The Career and Technical Education Department has been growing continuously over the course of the last three years. The team has been focusing immensely on dual credit course offerings and personalized learning. The cold and snow has not slowed this team down! February was CTE month and they used the month to celebrate the success of students and to compete in regional competitions statewide!

Technical Education

Unity's Technical Education Department has expanded over the last few years. Dual Credit WITC classes were made available beginning of last year. Next year students will also be able to get advanced standing credit with WITC in Building Information Modeling and Woods classes. This is a huge advantage for students thinking of going into a program at WITC after graduating from Unity.



There are several new classes being offered next year in the Tech. Ed. department as well. The class, formerly known as Woods II, will now be Cabinet Making. This class will go more in depth into cabinet/furniture design and construction and give students more specific skills to use, compared to those previously offered in Woods II. The *Design in the Shop* class is geared for the student who is creative and wants to use that creativity! It allows the student to design and create projects in class from materials such as wood, metal, recycled materials, and maybe even 3D printing. Finally, the newest class offered next year might be the most exciting - Jobsite Construction! Students who have completed the Construction class, and are OSHA 10 certified, can spend two hours per day on a jobsite with a local contractor. These students will get first-hand experience working with a local, licensed contractor in the trade while earning a high school credit.

Students currently in SkillsUSA attended the Fall Leadership conference and competed in the District competition at Chetek-Weyerhaeuser. At the end of the month, nine of these students will be traveling to Menomonie to compete in the Regional Competition. Wish them luck! Natalie Mansheim also entered a State Pin design competition through SkillsUSA. The results of the competition won't be shared until the State Conference at the end of April, a conference that Skills members are hopeful to attend.



Agriculture

It has been a very productive year for Unity School District's agriculture education classes and Unity FFA chapter. Unity students have the opportunity to enroll in classes ranging from Wildlife Management, Forestry, Small Animals, Animal Science, Food Processing, Youth Apprenticeship, and Landscape, Plant,

and Turf Management. Two of these classes offered are dual credit courses that allow students to earn college credits while attending high school. Agriculture instructor, Lisa Jagielo, also teaches an exploratory agriculture class in the middle school for 5th grade students. "My day begins with teaching college credit courses and ends with a 5th grade exploratory class. I enjoy the variety and being able to spread agricultural knowledge and experiences to a wide range of students at Unity."

In addition to the agriculture classes, Jagielo also advises the Unity FFA chapter. This year they have a total of 46 active FFA members. The FFA has attended numerous events this school year including Sectional Leadership Workshop, 212/360 Leadership Conferences, Leadership Development Event contests, and National FFA Convention. Junior, Molly Trieschmann, will be advancing to Sectionals in the Discussion Meet Leadership Development Event, after placing 1st at districts last month. The FFA has also hosted a community blood drive that collected 42 pints of blood this fall, potentially impacting 126 lives. They will be hosting another blood drive this April at the high school level. This month FFA members are busy preparing for Career Development Event contests, applying for State FFA Degrees, National FFA Scholarships, and State FFA Proficiency awards. Unity FFA members have a lot of enjoyable activities and events to look forward to this spring and summer including State FFA Convention, Career Development Event contests, and exhibiting at the Polk County Fair.

Business Education- FBLA SOARS TO SUCCESS!

The Unity FBLA competed at the regional level competition on Saturday, February 2, 2019 in Superior Wisconsin. The chapter will be advancing **fourteen** of its students to the state level competition in early



April in Green Bay. Several of the students placed first in their competitive events including: Chase Patterson and Aaliyah Bowers for their written Business Plan, Jadyn Calhoun for her work in Client Services, and Rebekah Robinson for her Introduction to Business Speech. Other state qualifiers include; Hallie Allen, Natalie Albrecht, Lauren Jorgensen, Anna Gingras, Grace Owen, Myah Nelson, Maggie Conlan, Sophie Albrecht, Mackenzie Anderson and Sydney Horgan.

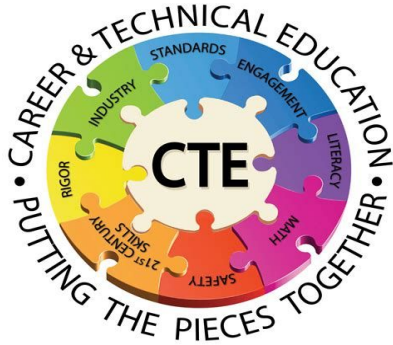
In addition to the chapter's success, regional peers elected Unity Sophomore, Rebekah Robinson, as the 2019-2020 Region One Vice President! The esteemed honor of this title has

never been held by a Unity Eagle. Robinson campaigned for the position against two other qualified candidates at the regional competition. Her goals for her region include: supporting and raising money for the March of Dimes organization, creating awareness and understanding about FBLA, and connecting with other regional chapters to encourage participation in FBLA. Rebekah will have the honor of working with both State and National FBLA representatives. She will not only travel to the State Competition but also to the National Competition, which will be held in Texas this summer. Furthermore, due to her elected position, Unity will be hosting the Regional Competition at the Unity High School next February. The event will bring in 25 regional schools and several community members. It is sure to be an amazing experience for all involved.



Looking Forward!

Though the CTE team has seen many successes this year, they do not plan on slowing down anytime soon! They are already busy plotting what the next school year will bring and have many important items on the agenda. These include, but are not limited to: the expansion of the Youth Apprenticeship program, the continued growth of local business partnerships, and scholarship opportunities for CTE students. Additionally, the team will be hosting a number of events at the high school.



Together, the team hopes to continue to grow the program by helping students reach their full potential and by focusing on college and career readiness. It is truly an exciting time to be a Unity Eagle!