

DELAWARE COUNTY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Innovative, Meaningful, Technical Training



March 2021

Student COVID – 19 Testing Program

The Delaware County Intermediate Unit/Delaware County Technical High Schools take the health and safety of our students and their families very seriously. As such, in addition to steps to screen for the virus and prevent its spread on a campus, we are adding a voluntary K- 12 COVID-19 testing program for students. This program uses two tests: Abbott Laboratories' BinaxNOW Ag Card and Cue COVID-19 test which are both rapid, point of care tests and have been provided by the federal government. The purpose of the program is to (a) provide quick testing for individuals who become symptomatic while on campus, to include being on the bus, or during school related activities, and (b) achieve viral reduction by conducting surveillance of individuals on a regular, routine basis. Both tests are being offered in addition to existing COVID-19 health and safety measures. While this program is optional, participation helps our school stay as healthy and safe as possible. We also want to be clear that this is not a clinical testing site, so students should not be coming to school if they are not feeling well to be tested at any time. There will be more information to follow over the next several days including a permission slip for testing.

February was Career & Technical Education (CTE) Month!

- *45% of learners said CTE courses provided them with real-world examples that help them better understand academic courses*
- *DCTS works with 13 different colleges, universities and institutions to provide students opportunities for post secondary credit*
- *According to Advance CTE, students who complete Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses tend to score higher on the ACT standardized testing*
- *Students are being prepared with real skills for the real world!*
- *90 percent of Americans agree that apprenticeships and skills training programs prepare students for a good standard of living.*
- *Over 75% of CTE learners enroll in postsecondary education after high school*
- *Learners indicated that their participation in a program of study made them more likely to focus on their studies and know where they were headed (80 percent) throughout and after high school*
- *70% of CTE learners reported that their program of study helped them get better grades.*

Statistics are found from Advance CTE at Careertech.org

Welding students training on the new Virtual Reality Welding Machine

This machine allows the class to practice welding skills in the classroom environment. It provides real time telemetry, so students can accomplish proper set up and technique before entering the lab.



During the month of February, students in all programs competed in SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel. SkillsUSA provides educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education in the nation's classrooms. SkillsUSA serves more than 372,655 students and instructors annually. This includes 20,598 instructors who join as professional members. Including alumni, SkillsUSA membership totals over 434,000. SkillsUSA has served 13.6 million annual members cumulatively since 1965 and is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor as a successful model of employer-driven workforce development. SkillsUSA activities develop positive attitudes, build self-esteem and empower students to excel. They give students a head start in developing valuable professional skills such as communications, interpersonal abilities, time management, teamwork and more. Because SkillsUSA works hand-in-hand with business and industry, students get the skills employers want. Find out more on SkillsUSA at SkillsUSA.org.

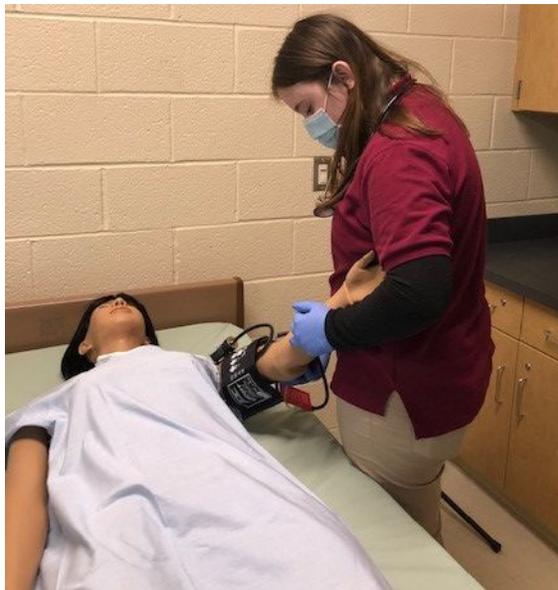


Dr. Lakshmi Balagopalan from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) was a guest speaker for our Medical Careers Program. She is an associate scientist in the laboratory of cellular and molecular biology with the NIH. She engaged our students with her enthusiasm on her role and the work of the NIH and even discussed future internship opportunities for our students! She explained her

primary research (T cell activation) and reviewed this concept with the students using images and videos. Laboratory discoveries were also a part of the presentation, including a video of a co-worker and photos of her lab within the NIH. Dr. Lakshmi Balagopalan explained her career path to the NIH including her academic studies while encouraging our students to explore their own interests and passions.



We are continuing "mock" clinical days with our newest clinical day on the Lab to coincide and provide elaboration on our guest speaker's presentation. The mock clinical includes real-life lab demonstrations, a virtual tour of a lab, a patient story, and much more. Students are required to complete a post-clinical assignment that challenges them to apply what they learned in the clinical day, including a few case studies.



Check out the DCIU YouTube page for videos of our programs and our Open Houses from January! The video below features all of our DCTS programs!



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OUR ONLINE
APPLICATION**

HERE!

www.DCIU.org/DCTS



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If you are on campus, make sure to use our Snap Chat Geo-Filters!



Delaware County Technical High Schools | [Website](#)



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