

---

# Connecting Careers and Academics through Project Based Learning & Experiences

---

Scott Davis, West Branch Middle & High  
School/Mahoning County Career Center

---

Amy Nicol-Wagner, Bunsold Middle  
School/Ohio Hi Point Career Center

# Career Based Intervention (CBI) - What We Do

CBI provides work-based learning experiences for at-risk students, while also placing an emphasis on early awareness, academic intervention, and recovery.

- Serves students Grades 7 to 12, (ages 12 - 21)
- Students are identified as disadvantaged (academically, economically, or both).
- Programs are designed to improve academic competency, develop professional skills, and assist in implementing a career plan.

**The Goal: Assist & prepare students for successful high school graduation, additional CTE training, post-secondary education, and/or a meaningful career.**

# Why We Believe in Project Based Learning

Allows the teacher to be extremely open-minded and fight the urge to say no.

Projects are a way for us to scaffold learning while allowing students to interject their own ideas and make it personal.

Allows for creativity.



# Brookdale Buddies

- Partnership between Brookdale (local assisted living facility) and my middle school class.
- Worked with the activities director to set up partnerships.
- First of five visits included introductions and pairing.
- Next three visits were interviews with front-loaded questions developed by students and Brookdale staff. Topics: growing up, raising children, working & hobbies and love & relationships.
- Final visit included book presentation and celebration of the project.
- Expenses: transportation and cookies

# From the Students

Dear Walter,

You're funny and thank you for listening to all the questions that I've asked you. The thing I liked the best about you was when you told me you didn't have any trouble getting girlfriends. Thank you for spending time with me!

Sincerely,

Xander



Dear Rose,

I think you are funny and fun to talk to. I liked that you told me about you and your kids because the stories were fun to learn about. Thanks for making time for our visits.

Sincerely,

John

Dear Alice,

I had a really good time talking with you and getting to know you. I thought you were very funny and nice. My favorite time that I visited was the fourth time because I had a good time with Pauline and you because we had good laughs that day. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Aaron





# Our Visits



# Biker Build-Off





# Biker Build-Off



## Students compete in Mini Bike Build-Off

BELOIT — Two teams from the West Branch Career-Based Intervention Program are competing in the OMB Warehouse Mini Bike Build-Off this year.

Four West Branch students are competing against students around the world to see who can build/restore the best mini bike. When each bike is complete it must successfully run and be in drivable condition.

"Each team is responsible for taking the bikes apart, assessing what needs to be replaced or repaired, searching for replacement parts, as well as placing the orders with various vendors," said Scott Davis, West Branch CBI teacher. "The students are also learning about how to work as a team, leadership skills, as well as safety in the workplace and how to use hand tools safely and properly."

Once complete, photos of the finished products are posted to the OMB website or judges to vote on their top three bikes in each class. WBHS sophomore Samantha Coffman and freshman Seth Lee and Miranda Hinchliffe are competing in the Vintage Class, restoring a 1963 Tote Gote Model 404. WBMS 8th grader Brian Boston is competing in the 18 and Under class, and restoring



Submitted photos

Miranda Hinchliffe, Seth Lee and Samantha Coffman working on their 1963 Tote Gote Model 404.



The 1970 Fox Sprite mini bike WBMS eighth-grader Brian Boston is restoring.

a 1970 Fox Sprite.

As part of the competition, students must post photos of their progress on the OMB website once a month. The community is

invited to track both groups progress at <http://www.mrdavisbi.com/biker-build-off-2019.html>. The contest runs through May 31.





# Raffle Bike



- **Raised \$5459.00**



# Monarch Marketplace

- Student run and managed school store
- Gives real-world retail sales experience as well as printing and graphics with t-shirt production
- Positions include: manager, cashier, advertising team
- All students design spirit wear for the store (used outside graphic designers to teach elements of basic design)
- Start up was challenging because how do you start a business from nothing?
  - Wrote grants, had initial photo fundraiser
- Expenses: Products to sell, display units, cash register, signage, heat press, vinyl cutter





# Planting Beds

- Collaboration between CBI and Agriculture department



# BMS Buckets for Troops

- Goal of 50 buckets (care packages) of supplies, treats, cards, toiletries, etc. to deployed military service personnel.
- Bring in guest speakers from the military as well as correspond with bucket recipients to have questions answered.
- First year was grant-funded with some additional community support. Second year no grant funding but more community support plus student-raised funds from the Monarch Marketplace.
- Addresses are the biggest challenge of the project.
- Expenses: bucket contents, shipping, sponsor thank you's



- Collect and wash buckets
- Sort supplies





# They made it!



# What the students had to say:

"I really liked doing the bucket for troops and I think that the soldiers that got them really appreciated them. It was a very fun and memorable project and I think students learned some things during it, like how soldiers are away from home and how they get deployed. Some soldiers may not even be able to talk to their family on a regular basis and this bucket full of stuff may have made them feel more at home or like they had a piece of home with them. I hope that you do this project again because there are so many more soldiers out there that could use these buckets and the encouraging letters. I hope future students can experience and enjoy this project just like our class did."

"I felt really happy that we as a team helped make these buckets that would go world wide. When I was helping put them together I noticed that everyone was smiling and I could have sworn that I saw some of those smiles jump into the buckets and who ever got the buckets the smiles jumped out and got on their faces!!!"

# Career Cluster Experiences - Scott





# Career Cluster Experiences - Amy

- Career Interest Survey results guide students through experiences in the career cluster that may most interest them.
- Experiences include: guided notes (overview of the cluster), applied math problems, exposure to new vocabulary and careers within that cluster, two unique experiences (ex: building, researching, application scenarios) and a reflection.
  - The bulk of these experiences were purchased on Teachers Pay Teachers. Discount code available!
- Virtual Reality (VR) experiences can also be included in these experiences.
- Expenses: curriculum (\$99), VR headsets (\$2-\$30), iPods

**Send an email to Anita and mention that you attended the conference for a discount code!**



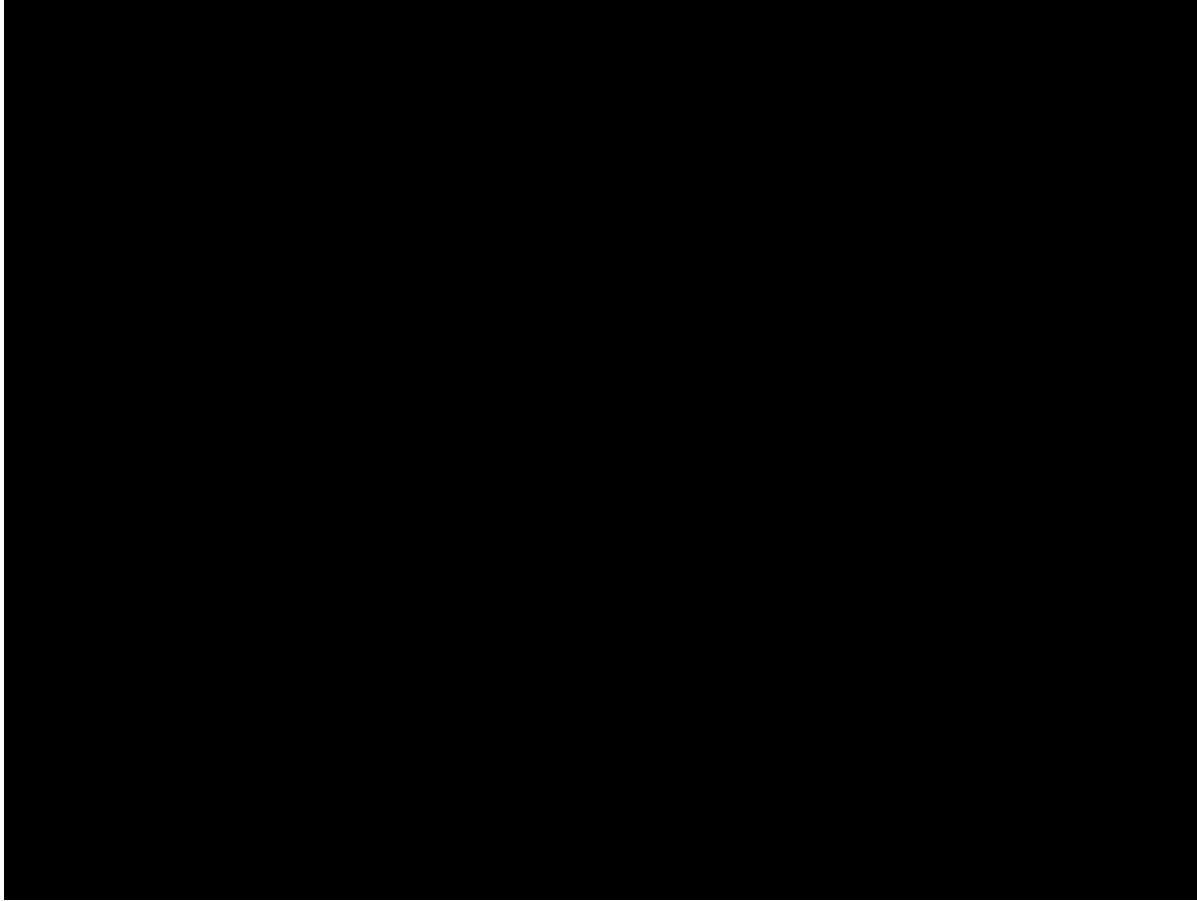
# Career Cluster Experiences



- **Roller Coaster Challenge**
- **Landscape Design**

# Career Cluster Experiences

- **Manufacturing Career Cluster:**  
Learning about the Assembly Line







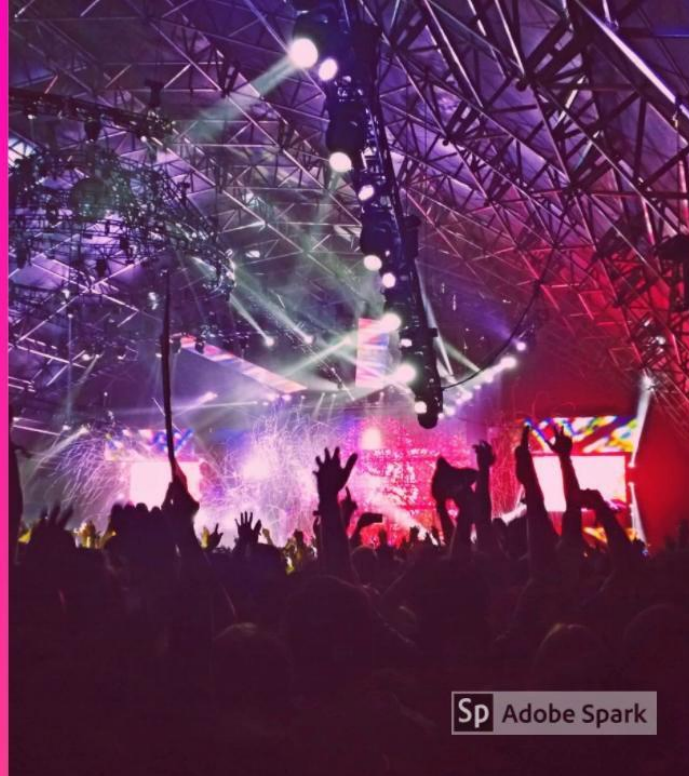
- Virtual Reality Experiences
- Snap Circuits
- Real Estate Flip Activity - Floor Plan Design
- Transportation



# Career Cluster Experiences

- Arts, A/V and Communication Cluster:  
Creating a Video in Adobe Spark

**I'm really  
interested in  
dancing even  
though I'm not  
the best dancer, I  
still find it fun!**



# What Students Had to Say

- I liked how the classes were set up because I got to have a little break but also get help on something and pick my own path
- Yes I liked it set up that way because you were allowed to do it your own way and whatever career you wanted to do so other people got to do different things.
- Very helpful with the career i want to do in life, gave a lot of info with the projects
- It gives kids a chance to work harder



# Summer Camp Amphibious 6-Wheeler Rebuild



# Our latest Adventure - Scott

## Entrepreneurship

- Silk Screen Printing
- Start up costs
- Expenses per unit
- Price per unit
- Profit per unit



# Funding

CTE Weighted Funding

Community connections - toot your own horn

Form partnerships (win-win)

Alumni

Fundraising

If you prove yourself, the funding will come.



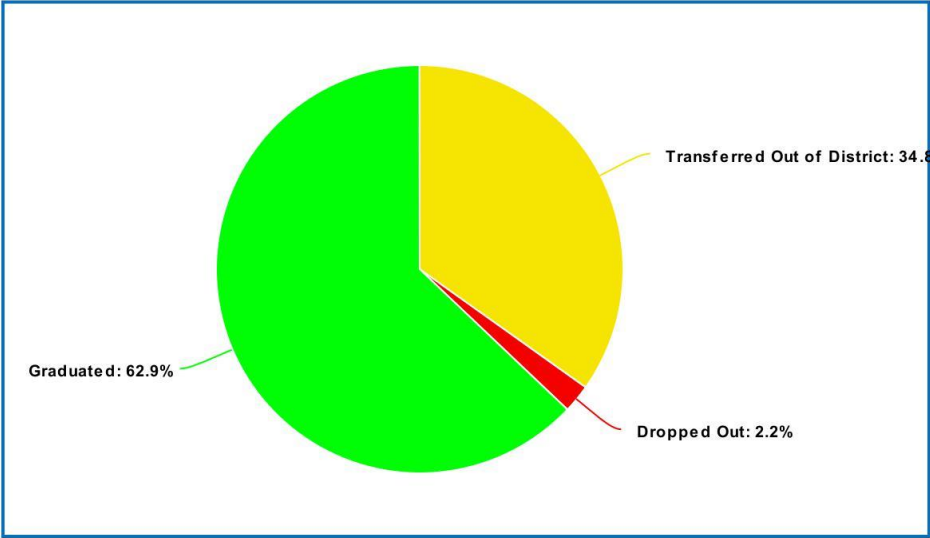


# How do we know this works at West Branch?

School Year	Middle School	High School	Total
2014-2015	5	16	21
2019-2020	36	44	80
2014-2020	152	160	312



# How do we know this is working at Bunsold MS?

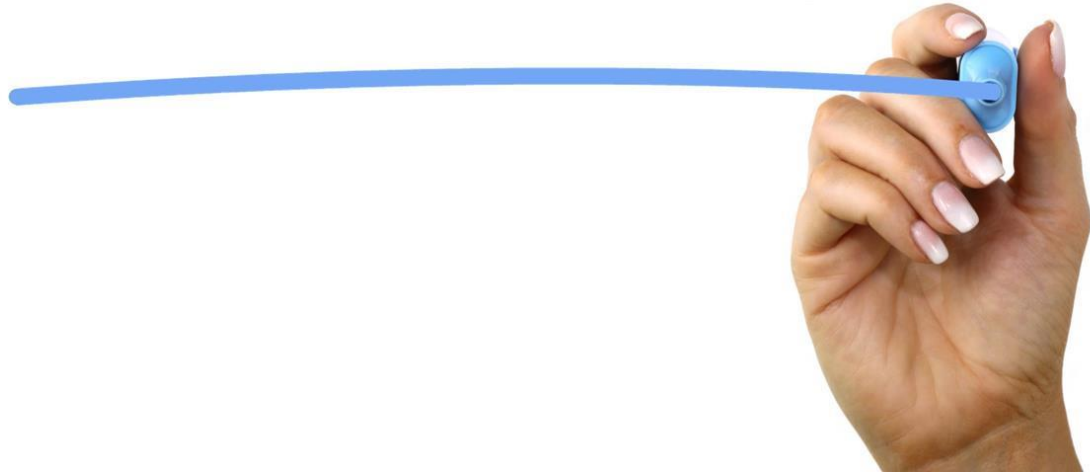


■ Transferred Out of District ■ Dropped Out ■ Graduated



	Graduated	Transferred Out	Dropped Out	Total
Students	56	31	2	89
Percentage	63%	35%	2%	100%

# QUESTIONS





# Contact Us



**Scott Davis**

[scott.davis@mahoningctc.com](mailto:scott.davis@mahoningctc.com)

[www.mrdaviscbi.com](http://www.mrdaviscbi.com)

**Amy Nicol-Wagner**

[awagner@ohiohipoint.com](mailto:awagner@ohiohipoint.com)

---