

Annual North Valley Breakfast Banquet was a Success

29 Juniors and Seniors Inducted into the North Valley Technical Honor Society

By: Brynn Flanders with Reprint Permission from The Walsh County Record

On May 11, 2021, 29 juniors and seniors were inducted into the North Valley Technical Honor Society.

In order to meet the prestigious requirements, each student was to take at least two classes in a specific field at North Valley Career and Technology Center and participate in the class's designated club all while maintaining a respectable grade point average (GPA).

There are seven designated program areas at North Valley, forming five different career and technical student organizations.

Ag education classes are taught by Molly Zahradka, Brent Arndt, and Callahan Anderes where the three specialize in Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Agriscience Technology; Ag Sales and Services; Agriculture Business Management; Botany Horticulture; Pre Vet Science; Agronomy; Supervised Ag Experience; and Agricultural Processing. Each instructor advises FFA where students develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

Randy Kennedy specializes in auto technology where he offers Introduction to Auto Technology, Auto Technology, and Auto-Cooperative Work Experience. All students in Kennedy's classes are able to participate and compete in Skills-USA alongside all students in Brian Bork and Bryan Stastny's classes.

Brian Bork is the instructor of all construction technology and drafting classes offered at North Valley. Bork specializes in Construction I and II, Drafting for Construction, Advanced

Drafting for Construction, and Construction Cooperative Work Experience. Likewise, Bryan Stastny is the director of all welding and machine tool technology classes. Stastny trains his students in Welding Technology, Emerging Technology, Welding Cooperative Work Experience, and Commercial Drivers License (CDL).

Susan Shuley is the business education and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) instructor. Her students have the opportunities to take Developing Leaders, Business Education, and Business Ed Cooperative Work Experience.

Joining Shuley in the business field, Joey Demers offers Marketing I, Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Model Store using the DECA Depot, Marketing Cooperative Work Experience, Video Editing, Accounting I-IV, Multimedia, and Principles of Marketing. Demers is the advisor of DECA where a great number of students travel the state for conferences to compete and network.

Valerie Heuchert leads the health science programs, teaching Health Science I, Medical Terminology, Basic Patient Care, Advanced Patient Care, Sports Medicine, and Health Careers Cooperative Experience. Heuchert's classes and HOSA club are filled with young students looking to pursue the medical field.

These seven fields make up FFA, Skills USA, FBLA, DECA, and HOSA all of which provide students with real-life skills, opportunities, and work experiences.

Starting off the banquet, parents, students, and faculty gathered outside of Grafton's Performing Arts Center (GPAC) for an early morning social breakfast.

Everyone was then seated inside of the GPAC where the ceremony took place. North Valley Director Michael Hanson opened the banquet by welcoming the guests and explaining the importance and honor of being inducted into the Honor Society. Joey Demers then introduced

two of his senior students, Brynn Flanders and Luis Balderas, and Valerie Heuchert welcomed two of her seniors, Julia Dusek and Signe Ekman.

The four students gave speeches about the importance and impact North Valley has had on their high school careers. Being seniors, Flanders and Balderas reflected on their favorite DECA memories while Dusek and Ekman reminisced over their HOSA and health career class experiences. Giving thanks to their North Valley instructors who have guided them throughout their trade experiences, the four gave their crowds a reason to smile, laugh, and even shed a few tears.

After the heartfelt speeches given by four senior students, Lori Zahradka began the induction ceremony. Each student was called to the stage and was honored with a certificate. Seniors were additionally honored with North Valley graduation chords and were put into a random selection scholarship drawing where Brynn Flanders and Landon Woinarowicz each were drawn for \$100 academic scholarships.

Closing the induction ceremony, Michael Hanson gave his final remarks. Students, faculty, and parents celebrated with pictures and kind words following the banquet. North Valley is extremely proud of their new inductees as it is a record-breaking year of students being honored. Overall, it was a successful morning of joy and celebration of prosperous students.