

CAREER COUNSELOR CORNER



Fall 2021

Helping Our Students Get Ready to Launch

Highlights in this issue

What's Ready to Launch?

From Grades K to 12:
Get Started Early With Careers

Manufacturing Careers

Financial Aid Opens
Postsecondary Options

Virtual Events & Opportunities.



Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking.

~ Steve Jobs

GET TO KNOW READY TO LAUNCH

Ready to Launch was created in 2017 by the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency (Wayne RESA), with the support of local school superintendents, to accelerate access for Wayne County students to career and post-secondary resources. The overarching goals of this are to:

- Ensure every school in Wayne County is aware of every career exploration opportunity currently available to their students.
- Create a “one-stop shop” of resources to support all students in developing their career plans.
- Grow the number of Wayne County graduates entering the talent pipeline.

To help satisfy this goal, workforce.resa.net was created to catalogue career development resources and ensure opportunities were shared across the county. Workforce.resa.net has a catalogue of short term training and post-secondary opportunities. In addition, the team collaborated to provide individualized career counseling, facilitate career focused field trips, professional development, and other hands-on opportunities for students.

During the 2020-2021 school year, efforts to reach students in lower grades were expanded. Students were invited to participate in virtual career chats where they had an opportunity to connect with professionals in the field, have in-depth conversations about careers, and learn more about local resources to help them get started. At the same time, the career counselor newsletter launched to introduce students, parents and other stakeholders to the importance of career development and opportunities to support student growth.

We are grateful for this growth and look forward to building upon this work, this school year. To stay connected and stay abreast of all things career development in Wayne County, follow the Ready to Launch Team on all Social Media Platforms. See page 8 for more information.



Find Your Future Here: workforce.resa.net

UPCOMING/SEMESTER 1 READY TO LAUNCH CAREER COUNSELING EVENTS



Families looking to support their student with career planning should attend our virtual series.

Career Counselor Connections #1 Introduction to the Ready to Launch Program - 10/26/21 @ 6pm
[Register Here](#)



Career chats are for students exploring different pathways or wanting to learn more about fields they are considering. Come hear from professionals and find your starting place.

11/17/21 @3:30pm Construction & Professional Trades [Register Here](#)

12/15/21 @3:30pm Careers in Health
[Register Here](#)



10/26/21
Parent Connections



11/17/21
Career Chat



12/15/21
Career Chat

KIDS AND CAREERS: GET STARTED EARLY

We're never too young to start thinking about a career. Many remember dressing up for career day back in elementary school or conducting career focused research in middle or high school. Because careers are all around us, we should be able to effortlessly infuse career development conversations at any age, even elementary school.

Parents say that highlighting and acknowledging their child's strengths and talking with them about various careers are a couple of ways to get started. Other parents encourage enrichment activities to help develop and strengthen career interests. Here are some other ways to support your child's career development growth and have career conversations at home:

Family Outings - Check out career focused exhibits or other learning opportunities. [The Henry Ford Museum](#) recently wrapped up Kitchen Sink Engine Demonstrations and Build A Model T Sessions. [The Detroit Zoo](#) has several opportunities for younger children. Math in Nature Adventure ([Belle Isle Zoo](#)) and a Virtual Conservation Series are great options. [The Michigan Science Center](#) has a number of activities including the Smithsonian SparkLab, Health Gallery, and the STEM Playground.

Encourage Conversations With Family and Close Family Friends - Many children can name the careers of close relatives, but don't really know what they do. Prep them, by suggesting they ask two to three questions to a relative at the next family gathering. If possible, encourage a short virtual tour or job shadow. This offers a great opportunity to connect with a loved one and learn more about the workforce.

Videos Online - There are a number of career focused videos where children can job shadow, virtually. Pure Michigan Talent Connect has a collection of videos dedicated to inspiring career development in children. Check out their pages here: [Careers in Michigan for Kids](#) and [Career Awareness Toolkit](#).

Television - Many young people get inspiration from the television shows they watch. *CSI*, *First 48*, and *Law and Order* have inspired many criminal justice majors and pre-law students. *How It's Made* and *How the Universe Works* have inspired budding engineers and scientists. *Doc McStuffins* has led many to consider careers in medicine. If you think your child can relate, encourage them to dig deeper into these careers of interest. Ask them to research and think about the education required, the length of training, growth rate, and challenges in the field. In addition, talking with them about how their strengths connect to the field could also help. [Using US Bureau of Labor Statistics - Career Development Page](#).



CELEBRATE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK



National Apprenticeship Week is November 8th to November 12th. This annual event, in its sixth year, was created to expose students, parents, and the community to apprenticeship opportunities. An apprenticeship is another pathway into the workforce that includes paid, hands on training while working under the leadership of a skilled professional(s) in the field. This is an opportunity to start your career in a high-pay, high skill, in-demand field and get educated at the same time.



An apprenticeship often includes some classroom instruction to reinforce learning in the field. For some new apprentices, this classwork is minimal, but varies across programs.

Apprenticeships can be found in most career sectors that include the professional trades, manufacturing careers, healthcare, and cosmetology. Prospective apprentices often get connected with opportunities through local employers, union halls, pre-apprenticeship programs, or community colleges.



To connect to an event during this week or to learn more about apprenticeships, the following resources may be helpful:

- [Apprenticeship.gov](https://www.apprenticeship.gov)
- [MustCareers.org](https://www.mustcareers.org)
- [MAT2 Apprenticeship Program](#)

Going **PRO**
IN MICHIGAN

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Talent Connect

WAYNE **RESA** | SERVICE
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EXCELLENCE
Workforce Development

LET'S RECAP: MLTAI APPRENTICESHIP DAY 2021

Last June, **MLTAI** (Michigan Laborers' Training & Apprenticeship Institute) joined Wayne RESA's Ready to Launch Career Counselors in offering an in-person construction apprenticeship day. MLTAI uses state-of-the-art technology combined with activity-based, student-centered learning processes.

Students from the Class of 2021 participated in building scaffolding, a concrete simulation, and pipeline construction. When the day was over, they understood firsthand what a construction career apprenticeship looks & feels like. Look for opportunities like this to learn about construction careers later this school year!



CAREERS IN MANUFACTURING

October is Manufacturing Month! This is the chance for us to celebrate and highlight modern manufacturing careers.

Manufacturing jobs involve the creation of new products either from raw materials or by assembling different components through physical, chemical or mechanical means.

Associates, operators, technicians, supervisors, engineers, managers, and directors are all part of the manufacturing process. The industry seeks to fill 4.6 million high-skill, high-tech and high-paying jobs over the next decade. Manufacturers in the United States make spaceships, cars, computers, medicine and food. There are currently 800,000 open manufacturing jobs nationwide.

[Click here](#) to watch videos from SEMCA's 2021 Manufacturing Day!



WELLNESS CORNER : COPING WITH ANXIETY

The pandemic brought about great feelings of worry...what if I get sick? What if my parent dies? What if I lose my home? Anxiety occurs in most people when there is a sense of helplessness or a loss of control. The American Psychological Association defines anxiety as an emotion characterized by feelings of tension, worried thoughts and physical changes. People with anxiety disorders usually have recurring intrusive thoughts or concerns. They may avoid certain situations out of worry. They may also have physical symptoms such as high blood pressure, sweating, trembling, dizziness or a rapid heartbeat.



Parents should be aware of the signs of anxiety and explore ways to help themselves and their children. Researchers and clinicians theorize that anxiety among today's children and adolescents may be intensifying for a variety of reasons, including increased pressure to succeed in school, growing up in the age of social media and living in a world where mass shootings frequently dominate the headlines.



In "[When in Doubt, Shout it Out! 8 Drug-free ways to Battle Anxiety](#)" Valencia Higuera provides many ways to cope with anxiety that include the following:

- Talking it out with a counselor, friend, or family member
- Exercising
- Reducing caffeine intake
- Getting more sleep
- Saying NO and learning to set boundaries
- Eating a healthy diet

Here are more resources to help:

[Free or Low Cost Mental Health Care](#)
[Better Ways to Combat Anxiety in Youth](#)
[Helping Kids Manage Stress and Anxiety: A Parent's Guide](#)



FINANCIAL AID OPENS POSTSECONDARY OPTIONS

The [2022-2023 FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is now open (as of October 1st)! Current seniors should use this online application to apply for financial aid for next school year. It's the only way to see what financial aid eligibility can be applied towards college or career school tuition. Don't delay; some states & schools have limited funds! Use these steps to find out the actual cost for college, certification programs & trade schools:



- **CREATE AN FSAID** - Your FSAID acts as your username and password for your financial aid application. Separate FSAIDs are required for parents/guardians and students. Go [here](#) to create your FSAID and store it in a safe place.
- Curious about how much financial aid assistance your student could be eligible for? **Use the [FEDERAL STUDENT AID ESTIMATOR](#) to estimate your child's financial aid.**
- **PRINT THE UASPIRE CHECKLIST.** This [checklist](#) is a great tool to help guide and support the financial aid process.
- Ask questions and use help that's available! Everyone needs help with this process, especially if it's your first time filling out the FAFSA. **Use [FAFSA's frequently asked questions and instant chat help](#) to make filling out the FAFSA faster & easier!**

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Would you like to meet? Need [Career Resources](#)?



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Note: *Inclusion of a program in our database does not indicate an endorsement by Wayne RESA. The database is for informational purposes only.*