

Iosco RESA Tech Center

Fall 2020

As if 2020 hasn't caused us enough change, IRESA says farewell to some of the most amazing staff members because they are on to bigger and better things...**RETIREMENT!!** Even though we are sad to say goodbye, we are beyond excited to be welcoming new people to fill their shoes.

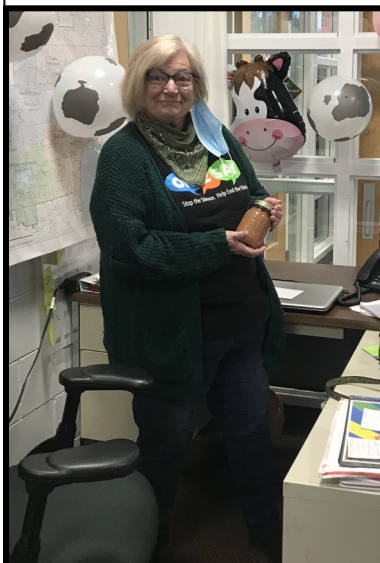


Dana McGrew

Dana has been the Superintendent for the Iosco RESA for the last 10 years. Dana's official retirement day is December 31, 2020. Previously, Dana was the Superintendent of the Shelby Public Schools for eight years and Akron Fairgrove Schools for four years. Dana has held the positions of principal, assistant principal, athletic director, and teacher. He has also coached football and track. Dana plans on spending time with his two children (Jessica and Kyle), traveling with his wife (Chris), fishing, hunting and spending time with friends and family. We are truly going to miss having Dana around, but we are so excited for his next chapter to begin!

Dr. Stephen Prissel Ph.D. (not pictured)

Stephen has been in education for 25 years. He began his career as a special education teacher and then started his administrative career as principal. For the last 14 years, he has been a local Superintendent. We are so excited to have Stephen on board at the IRESA as our new Superintendent, and we look forward to what the future will bring!



Mary Stanfill

Mary retired this past October, but worked for the IRESA since 2009 as our School Community Liaison Officer, enforcing the Michigan Compulsory School Attendance Laws for the schools located in the IRESA service area and was Consortium Coordinator for McKinney-Vento, making sure the locals complied with Federal Protections for Homeless Students. Previously, Mary was the Ancillary Services Coordinator at the Iosco Juvenile Court for 10 years. Mary states "IRESA is the best place I have ever worked because of the sense of mission to do the best for students". Mary plans to stay active on the Child Protection Council and with other volunteer work. We already miss Mary, but we wish her the best of luck on her new adventure!

Local High School Key:

A: Alternative Educational Academy

H: Hale High School

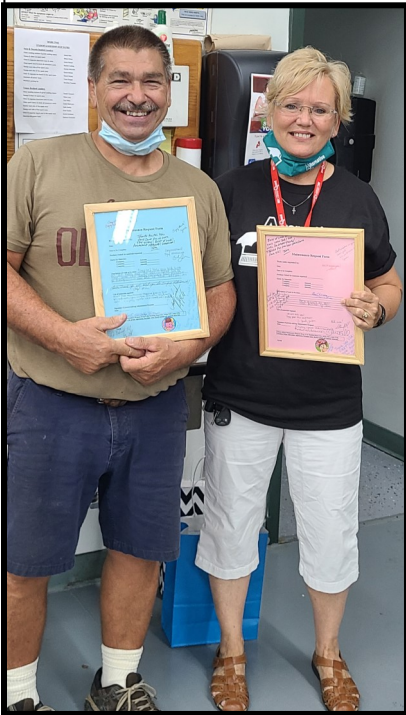
O: Oscoda Area High School

T: Tawas Area High School

WP: Whittemore-Prescott High School

Stephanie Conklin

Previously, Stephanie was the Student Data Specialist at Hale Schools for 3 years. Her main focus at Hale was Pupil Accounting, McKinney-Vento, and Student Demographics. We welcomed Stephanie to the IRESA this November as our School Community Liaison Officer! Stephanie said “this position seemed to fit me well because of my experience working with McKinney-Vento and my passion for student success”. We are so happy to have Stephanie on board with us at the IRESA.



Frank Goulette & Vicki Stonehouse

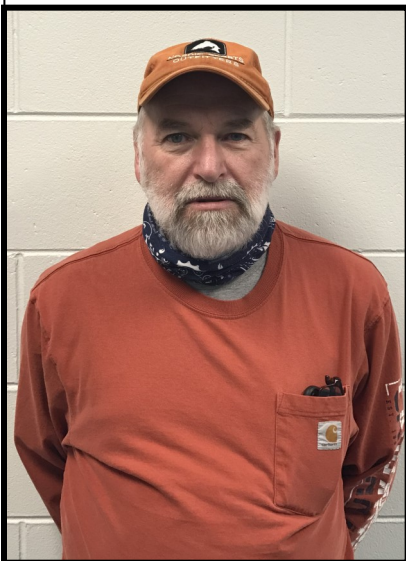
Frank worked for the IRESA for five years in Maintenance/Custodial. Frank worked for the school system for 13 years and another 32 years at Rose City Industries. Frank retired this past August, he was excited to be able to spend more time with his family.

(left) Frank and Vicki receiving their last “maintenance/custodial work order form” the staff all signed giving them well wishes on their new adventures!

Vicki has worked for the IRESA for the last five years. Vicki left her custodial position with us and is now a Paraprofessional at the Alternative Educational Academy in Tawas City. Best of luck to you, Vicki!

Richard Bowers (not pictured)

Rick is currently Iosco RESA’s newest Custodian. Rick joined our location back in August, he has always been an employee of IRESA but at different locations. Previously, Rick worked at Oscoda Area Schools for six years in multiple classrooms, working with children of all learning levels. Rick has been very busy making sure the IRESA building is staying clean during these unprecedented times. Thank you, Rick!



Bill Ryan

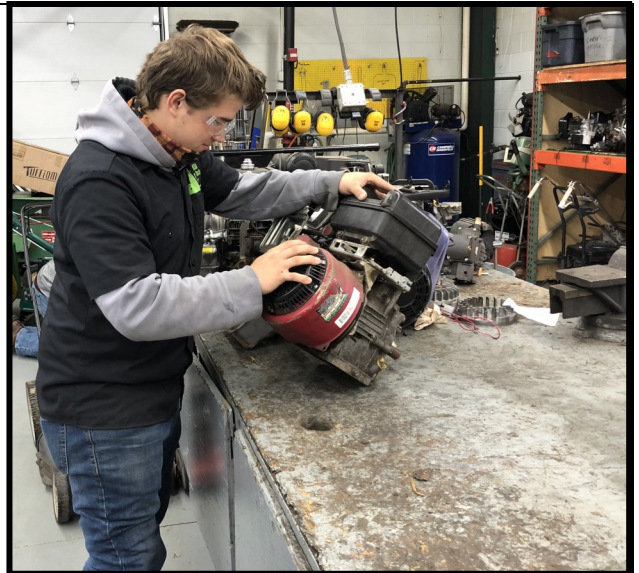
Bill joined the IRESA team this past August to head up the Maintenance Department. Bill comes to the IRESA with a wealth of knowledge, having worked at Lakeview Manor for 20 years, heading their maintenance department. Bill also worked in Fiber Optics in Plymouth, MI and did some time in North Dakota working in the oil fields. Welcome, Bill!

“A great employee is like a four leaf clover, hard to find and lucky to have”. - Tammy Cohen

Power Mechanics Instructor: Paul Billeter

The Power Mechanics students have been hard at work this fall. Students began the year learning how to work safely in the shop. Each student in the Power Mechanics program must go through rigorous safety training.

Developing young leaders is a primary goal for all Career Tech Programs. Leadership activities are chosen by the students and led by the students. The afternoon Tawas session leadership team designed, fabricated, and manufactured a bicycle rack. The bicycle rack was given to the Alternative Educational Academy so their students will have a secure place to put their bikes.



Pictured above, Hale junior, Mike Koepke, working on a small engine. Mike has restored a number of engines in Power Mechanics and is a real asset in the shop.

Pictured left is Tawas junior, Andrew Morris. Andrew is demonstrating how to properly use the chain hoist. Andrew is an excellent student who enjoys working with small engines.



From left to right, the Alternative Educational Representative, Vicki Stonehouse, Tawas senior, Dylan Lacy, Tawas senior, Kyla Nelkie, Power Mechanics Instructor, Mr. Billeter, Tawas senior, Austin Clement and Alternative Educational Academy Teacher, Helen Lounsbury.



Health Science

Instructor: Debbie Thoryk

Change is inevitable and our students are proof that positive things come from change. We have had to make some changes in our normal routine, starting with moving classrooms to start the 2020-2021 school year off, but the students have been so eager to get back into the swing of things.

Certifications and skills first year students have learned:

- CPR/First Aid and AED
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Personal Qualities
- Professionalism
- Customer Service
- Communications
- Safety Precautions
- Body Mechanics
- Emergency Care
- Airway
- Patient Assessment
- Health Care Systems & Careers
- Legal & Ethical Responsibilities

comfortable with skills and the curriculum.

Our first year students have been busy learning new skills and obtaining certifications. At the beginning of the year we taught as many in-person skills and certifications as we could in case the inevitable shut down should happen again.

Our second year students have been chipping away at their curriculum learning medical terminology, body systems and obtaining their online certifications through Health Center21. The second year students have been a big help in assisting the first year students. Each second year student was assigned a first year student or two to mentor. They are responsible for their student for the year, making sure they are

We have 20 students who have signed up to take our Certified Nursing Assistant course which started November 10th. We have 16 students from spring that need to finish their clinicals. They were unable to complete them due to the COVID-19 shutdown.

We hosted our first blood drive of the school year in September, we collected 38 pints of blood. In November, we collected 14 pints, which was amazing considering all of our students were virtual at that time.



Above, (left) Hailey Watson (O) and Jenna Kimmet (O), properly learned how to safely apply dressings and splints during an emergency.



Left to right (kneeling) Holli Haley (WP), Nathaniel Hall (H) and Kylie Billeter (WP) applied their emergency medicine skills to Kevin Billeter (WP).



Tawas students, Hanna Edmonds (left) and Jade Strauer (standing) properly fasten Madison Pintar into a KED board.

Health Science

Instructor: Debbie Thoryk

Alumni Spotlight

Michael Moran is a 2013 graduate from Tawas Area High School and a two-year member of the Health Science Program. Upon graduation Michael attended Central Michigan University. After one year at CMU he realized his dream was to attend Arizona State University to pursue a degree in Molecular Bioscience and Biotechnology. For Michael, that dream became a reality in 2017 when he obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Molecular Bioscience and Biotechnology and once again in 2020, as he has now earned his Ph.D. in Biochemistry.

For the past four years, Michael has researched structural based drug discovery through X-Ray Crystallography and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. This was done in collaboration with the Mayo Clinic working on a protein involved in Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease named G0/G1 switch protein 2 or G0S2, which is the rate-limiting step in triglyceride metabolism inside the human body.

Michael volunteers at the Phoenix Children's Hospital aiding in patient communication regarding non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. Michael's future plans consist of participating in post-doctoral studies to further investigate G0S2 which is a paid position at ASU. Michael states "my time at IRESA has helped me to figure out that I wanted to work with people and with a more technical background, driving me to go to college in the first place".



Cyndie Britt

Cyndie began working as a full time, long term sub paraprofessional in the Health Science Program in October of 2008 and was hired full time in March of 2009. Over the next two years while working full time as a paraprofessional in the Health Science Program, she started the Iosco RESA Tech Center Newsletter which was published three times a year. The newsletter was created to promote the Tech Center students' accomplishments and provide insight to the community about what the CTE programs had to offer students in our

communities. Throughout her time in the Health Science Program she also became the Tech Center work site coordinator assisting all the CTE instructors with their work site paperwork.

In the fall of 2018, she began a new position as a Pupil Accounting Auditor for the IRESA. This new position allowed her the flexibility to work fewer hours and from home. At the end of December 2020, she will be retiring from her current auditor position. This will allow her to spend more of her time with her husband, mother and three daughters who do not live locally. She and her husband, Bill, also own Sand Lake Area Storage and Britt Family Pure Maple Syrup Farm. Being retired from her "day job" will allow her more time to run these two businesses with her husband.

Throughout her time in the Health Science classroom Cyndie enjoyed working with instructor, Debbie Thoryk, as well as the other IRESA staff. Cyndie states "I really liked working with the students assisting them with preparation for postsecondary education or employment. It was a very rewarding and fun experience getting to know all of the students and assisting them with their plans for their future successes. I also enjoyed working with the staff at the local school districts navigating the pupil accounting rules and requirements". Congratulations, Cyndie!

Teacher Prep Academy Instructor: Kelly Frank

Teacher Cadets of Hale, Oscoda and Tawas are having an incredible experience being back face to face within their Host Classrooms! Each day they are learning new things to prepare for their future as teachers. Cadets create bulletin boards and door displays, work with students one on one, read with students, and learn a lot about the “behind the scenes” work that goes into being a teacher.

Iosco RESA is very fortunate to have a FANTASTIC group of “super teachers” as Host Teachers! They are truly inspirational!

**Whittemore-Prescott High School students are welcome to join this program. There are teachers waiting to Host within that school district!



(above) Erin Gerber (Year 1, T) created an interactive fall door display for Mrs. Livingston’s 2nd grade class.

(left) Eli Gatica-Gonzales (Year 2, T) works with his Kindergarten students to create painted handprints in Mrs. Louck’s classroom.

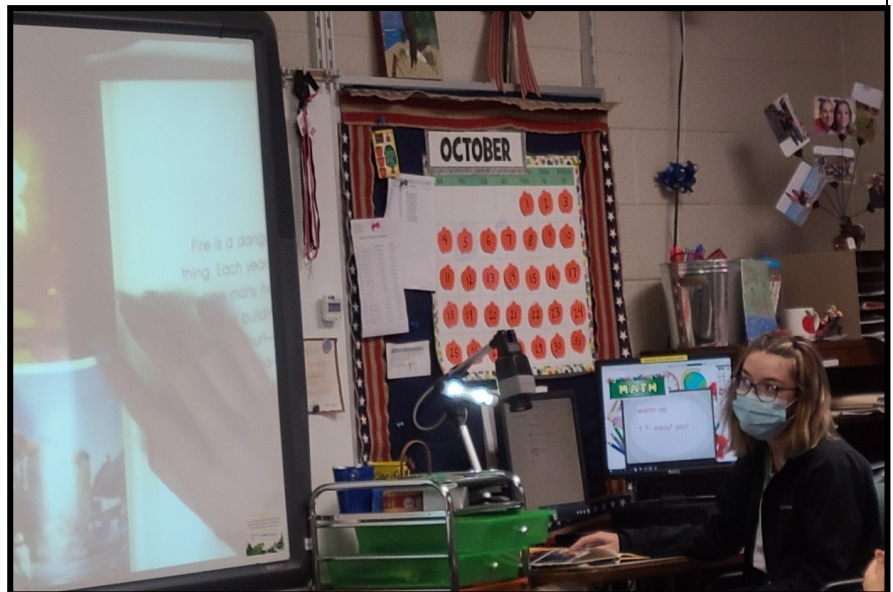
(below) Jillian Collins (Year 1, T) used technology to share a book with Mrs. Greene’s 3rd graders.

A huge **THANK YOU** to the following for being Host Teachers this school year.

Hale: Julie Bernard, Melissa Blomquist, Kayla Dodridge and Julie Look.

Oscoda: Kathy Erickson, Heather Hasty, Valorie Moeller, Laura Osech, Hilary Ostrander, Kristal Pidgeon, Jill Williams and Melissa Winters.

Tawas: Adrienne Dittenbir, Kelli Doan, Jayme Earl, Lauren Greene, Cathie Gronda, Amy Kennedy, Melissa LaJoice, Shannon Livingston, Krista Loeffler, Robin-Marie Loucks, Erin Klinger, Nichole Plank and Autumn Spencer.

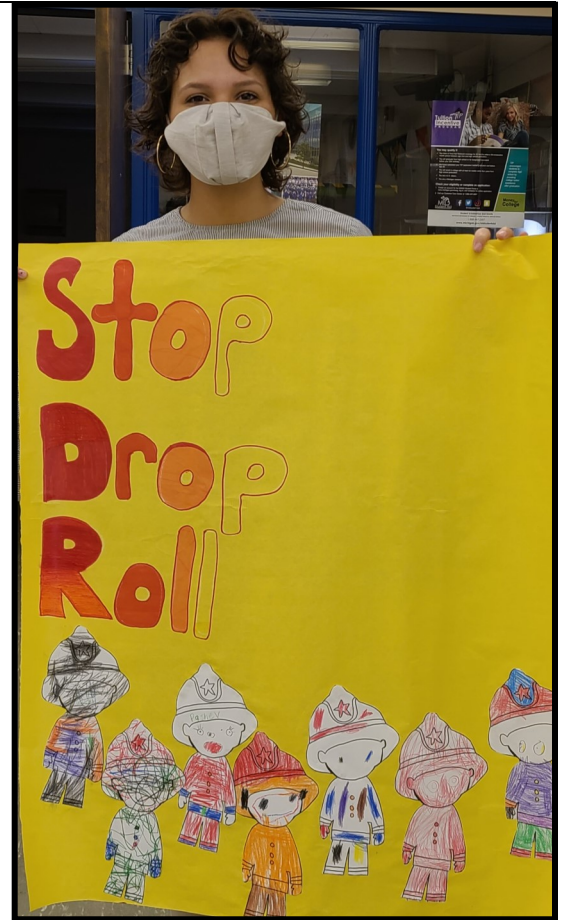


**Teacher Prep Academy
Instructor: Kelly Frank**



"It's the teacher that makes the difference, not the classroom".

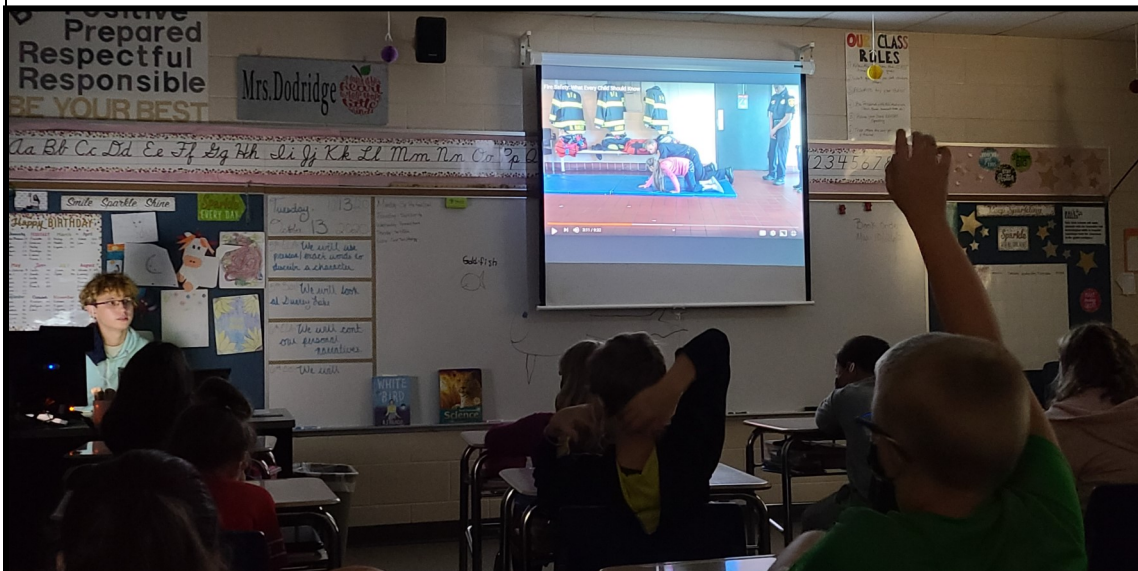
-Michael Morpurg



(above, left) Ms. Jeslyn LaJoice (Year 1, T) enjoys reading to Ms. Kennedy's Kindergarteners.

(above, right) Ms. Futima Fareh (Year 2, O) displays her Fire Safety Week poster with firemen colored in Mrs. Erickson's Kindergarten classroom.

(below) Mr. Gage Kangas (Year 1, H) did an extraordinary job of teaching fire safety to his 5th graders in Mrs. Dodridge's classroom.



Teachers
RULE

Culinary Arts & Restaurant Management

Instructor: Kimberlie Foskett

The Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management program students have started the year eager to be in the kitchen labs and learning the art of food preparation and presentation.

There are a lot of Covid-19 procedures and policies that they are learning, like the importance of sanitation in the kitchen to help keep the food safe for serving, including extra sanitation certifications from ServSafe for the students to earn. Students have finished the safety trainings with commercial kitchen equipment, fire safety, food sanitation and safety, including the coronavirus food safety policies, and workplace safety trainings.



Esmerelda Caudill (H) creating a pumpkin carving.

They are working on knife skills and safety to help them with specific knife cuts. Students are having some fun learning proper care and storage of produce while also working on fruit carvings and garnishes. They have created beautiful apple swans and did some very creative pumpkin carvings. They are practicing the art of plating and learning the important criteria to a successful plating (placement, color, texture, shape and balance). Students got to practice the plating skill with “The Twinkie Challenge”. They made chocolate, caramel and raspberry sauces to use with the twinkie along with some garnishes they learned and other ingredients within the kitchen.

Culinary students enjoyed making different types of pasta and are now learning to make the mother sauces and then make those into a derivative sauce, like alfredo and marinara. They have

started their employability skills and practiced interviews as well as getting the experience in filling out applications. They are currently working on teamwork skills, communication and the importance of both, to run a successful kitchen. The students and Chef Kim are looking forward to a great year and having some fun creating delicious dishes.



Lorin Bateson (WP) rolling pasta in the pasta rolling machine.



Automotive Technology

Instructor: David Green

The Automotive program began the year face-to-face, with restrictions as all students are required to wear a mask during the day when in the shop or the classroom along with maintaining social distancing. The students are adjusting well to this “new norm” as they transition further into the year.

Jim Amy from the University of Northwestern Ohio (UNOH) provided the students with a virtual view of the programs offered at UNOH with a very upbeat presentation/video showcasing the University’s successful racing teams as well as on-campus activities.

The following second year students became ASE certified:

John Edwards, Oscoda senior: Automobile; Automatic Transmission and Transaxle

Cameron Skuse, Oscoda senior: Automobile; Maintenance and Light Repair

Jacob Fanslau, WP senior: Automobile; Suspension and Steering, Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Repair, Manual Drive Train and Axles, Heating and Air Conditioning, Maintenance and Light Repair

Reed Loeffler, Tawas senior: Automobile; Suspension and Steering, Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Performance, Engine Repair, Automatic Transmission and Transaxle, Manual Drive Train and Axles, Heating and Air Conditioning, Maintenance and Light Repair, Automobile Service Technology



(above) WP senior, Jacob Fanslau and Hale junior, Aaron Johnston work on restoring the “65” Mustang.

(below) Tawas junior, Kendra McClaine and Hale senior, Logan Lewis change the oil while Oscoda juniors, Trevor Miller and Michael Geffrey wait for their turn under the vehicle.



(above) Tawas senior, Reed Loeffler and Tawas junior, Nicholas Romzek are pictured balancing a tire.



Building Trades

Instructor: Jack Flory

After a sudden and unexpected school closure in March of 2020, the Building Trades students began the new school year confronted once again with additional tasks beyond their normal curriculum. To accommodate the protocols of a COVID-19 school year, the sharing of classrooms within the school's main building was prohibited under new healthcare guidelines. The students were unexpectedly tasked with constructing a new training room in the first several weeks of the new school year where their class would meet on a daily basis. The returning students went straight to work in constructing the new room and first year students began OSHA safety compliance and basic tool training necessary for them to assist in the completion of the immediate task at hand. The students did a fantastic job completing the center (pictured below) where they will meet in the months to come and for permanent use by future building trades students.



Andrew Ranger (H), Zach Ouillette (O), and Landen Caverly (H) construct the training room.

In addition, the COVID-19 distancing guidelines created new challenges for other programs at the Tech Center. To help accommodate the new restrictions, the Building Trades students tackled the task of constructing new lockers (below, left) in their storage building using materials on-hand. As additional spacing demands surfaced, the Building Trades class volunteered to construct a new storage shed (below, right) behind the main building and began installation of a new fence and gate enclosure for added security around the storage facility. As unexpected projects were surfacing, the students stayed on target with their curriculum demands and completed the SP-2 construction safety course and the tool performance and safety training needed to continue with the completion of their house construction project left suddenly vacant earlier this year.



(below) Morning shift poses for a job well done. L to R: Zander Aldrich (WP), Kameron Thomas (O), Chris Thompson (O), and Zach Ouillette (O).



Building Trades Instructor: Jack Flory

The Trades students wasted no time picking up where they left off in the spring with their house project. Working in smaller teams as required by the new health-guidelines, this year's class immediately accepted the added demands placed upon them for their health and safety with little complaint. In a few short months, they finished the final window installation, installed the PVC window trim and vinyl siding, finished the front porch decking, rails, and post wraps, and witnessed the installation of the new well and septic system being installed. Inside students finished framing the final two interior walls and assisted with completion of the rough wiring of the home. Building department inspections for rough-framing, electrical, HVAC/Plumbing are being completed and spray foam insulation and dry walling will begin over the next few weeks. "Pictures say a thousand words." Nice work Building Trades Class of 2020-21.

(Pictured right) Siding Complete! L to R: Russ Wilson (WP), Blayke Haskins (O) and Tyler Krzysiak (WP).

Finish Decking Complete! L to R: Tawas students; Devin Bellinger, Dominic Kloc, Kaleb Brace, Alysa Gould, and Tyler Allen.



PVC Window Trim Complete L to R: Dustin Tumminello (T), Nick Short (H), Makayla Richardson (O), and Andrew Ranger (H).

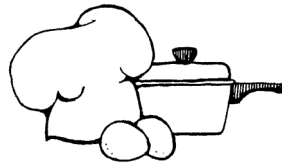


A **BIG** thank you to **Tawas Sand and Gravel** for installing our septic system and **Denstedt Well Drilling!**



The Iosco RESA Career and Technical Education Center would like to take this opportunity to recognize **Ethan Nelkie** as “**Professional Student of the Month**” for **September 2020**. Ethan is the son of Joe and Sandy Nelkie. He is a junior at the Alternative Educational Academy.

Ethan is a first year student in the Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management program. Ethan loves this class and it shows. He is very prompt, kind, and courteous to everyone and is always eager to help whoever needs it. Ethan is a level 1 student but has the work ethics of a level 2 student. He keeps people on task and volunteers regularly for extra work. His leadership makes him a great role model for others.



The Iosco RESA Career and Technical Education Center would like to take this opportunity to recognize **Alysa Gould** as “**Professional Student of the Month**” for **October 2020**. Alysa is the daughter of Alan and Jill Gould. She is a senior at Tawas Area Schools.

Alysa is a second year student in the Building Trades program. As a nontraditional student in the construction trades program, Alysa has made tremendous strides this year becoming a clear leader among her classmates. She is an excellent team player, operates building related tools with precision, and takes great pride in her work. She has been a member of the leadership committee at IRESA and will be attending Delta College next fall majoring in Residential and Commercial Construction Programs.



Students at the Iosco RESA Tech Center “Breaking Traditions” studying in a non-traditional program

Students enrolled in non-traditional programs increase their potential for:

- * Economic self-sufficiency
- * Higher wages and better benefits
- * Broader job opportunities
- * Greater advancement potential
- * Job satisfaction

Non-traditional programs offered at the Iosco RESA Tech Center:

CULINARY ARTS & RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT
POWER MECHANICS

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
BUILDING TRADES

The Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency does not discriminate in any activity, program, or employment on the basis of race, disability, national origin, gender, religion, age, height, weight, or marital status.