

ICTC: Tech center students participating in Challenge Program

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At the Indiana County Technology Center, students watched — and a few also participated in — an orientation assembly.

The assembly was used by The Challenge Program Inc., which is a regional nonprofit organization, to familiarize the students with the program.

What does the assembly, and the program itself, do? The program creates viable business/education partnerships and introduces students to careers in their neighborhoods and communities — career opportunities they may not know are available to them.

The program will be visiting participating high schools in Indiana County during the fall season to present their orientation assembly, “Respect: Are You Up for the Challenge?” The assembly is a team project that is a dramatization that shows how students should act in the workplace.

Barbara Grandinetti, who is the executive director of The Challenge Program Inc., says that many students that are either in or are going into high school already have jobs or will be applying for them in the future.

The orientation assembly will demonstrate positive and negative workplace behaviors that will help students do well when they’re on the job and will help them when they’re transitioning into the workforce.

To emphasize The Challenge Program Inc.’s message of inspiring students to have solid work habits that jobs require, monetary rewards are given to students in the sophomore, junior and senior classes at every participating high school.

All students are eligible to contend for awards in these categories: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), attendance, academic excellence, academic improvement and community service.

Underclassmen students at ICTC were recognized at the orientation assembly for the achievements they made during the previous school year (2014-15).

One of these students was Alexandera Ringler, who volunteered 536 hours as a volunteer firefighter for the Pine Township Volunteer Fire Co. and went on ride-alongs with the Blacklick Valley EMS.

Ringler said, “I had a feeling I could win and I had worked so hard that I knew I was already a winner in everyone’s book. The Challenge Program Inc. really inspired me to help people and I urge everyone to get involved with your local volunteer fire department because our departments are small and we all really need your help right now!”

Winners for ICTC included Kyler Renninger, junior academic excellence; Jacob Richardson, junior academic improvement; Ringler, sophomore community service; Brooke Heberling, sophomore STEM;



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Lindsay Deyarmin, sophomore academic improvement; Austin Mimis, sophomore attendance; Mitchell Meagher, junior STEM; and Stephanie Bernd, junior attendance in the morning session.

In the afternoon session, winners were Benjamin Crawford, junior community service; and Logan McIntire, sophomore academic excellence.

Congratulations to all the ICTC Challenge Program winners.

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