

# Program combines businesses, schools in teaching workplace strategies

The Herald-Dispatch Sep 20, 2015




Courtesy of The Challenge Program Pictured from left are The Challenge Program, Inc. award winners, who were recognized during the previous academic year (2014/15): Isabella Scarberry, Academic Excellence; Alexis Deskins, Attendance; Ella Cooper, Award; Rebecca Gaunch, Community Service; Alaina Seckman, Academic Improvement; and Kelly Weikle with sponsor, Columbia Pipeline Group.

ONA - Students at Cabell Midland High School were introduced to The Challenge Program Inc. during a kick-off assembly at the school earlier this month.


The assembly, themed "Respect: Are You Up for the Challenge?" was a team project dramatization that gave students the opportunity to see demonstrations of positive and negative workplace behaviors that would help them succeed on-the-job.

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The Challenge Program is a regional nonprofit organization that aims to build sustainable business-education partnerships while introducing students to careers in their communities. During the assembly, students in the sophomore, junior, and senior classes were introduced to local career opportunities.

Throughout the year, students will be eligible to compete for financial awards in five areas linked with academic and workplace success: Attendance, academic improvement, academic excellence, STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and community service.



Columbia Pipeline Group is the business partner at the school for 2015/2016.

Each Challenge Program school is matched with at least one business, which will participate in the dramatization and be given the opportunity to speak briefly about career opportunities available within their company.

Since 2003, The Challenge Program has been presented to almost 500,000 students in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.