

# Latrobe Bulletin

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## Recent DAHS grad finds fast success through Career Pathways program

BY NICK CAMMUSO  
Bulletin Staff Writer

While the district's Career Pathways program provides students with various job exploration tools, one recent Derry Area High School graduate used the program to carve a career path for himself and possibly future students.

During his senior year at Derry Area, Jacob Fodor served as an intern at H&W Global Industries Inc. in Burrell Township, Indiana County. But the 2018 grad did more than your typical job shadowing, creating Computer-Aided Design (CAD) layouts of the facility, among other projects.

H&W Global is an industrial coating services company specializing in metal pretreatment, passivation, anodizing, powder coating and painting. It also offers specialized services related to plating, finishing, assembly and special packaging. Defense and aerospace clients make up the bulk of the business, which was established in 2002.

Fodor was recommended by Derry Area after H&W Global vice president of operations Greg Platt reached out to local high schools for a student who had the AutoCAD skills needed to map out the company's 40,000-square-



JACOB FODOR

foot facility.

After adjusting his high school schedule, Fodor went to work.

He eventually put H&W Global's equipment and facility on CAD, and his personal interest in 3-D printing led the company to purchase an entry-level 3-D printer. Fodor used the printer to create plugs and fixtures for the company, as well as prototypes of molds, which in turn helped cut labor costs.

"He has not only put all our equipment and facility on CAD, but he is helping us in so many other ways," Platt said in a letter to the district, which was read during a

Derry Area School Board presentation last month. "... He continues to work for us now that he is in college. Jake has an excellent work ethic and I've seen tremendous growth in him in the relatively short time he has been with us. He's a valued member of our team."

Following the board presentation, Fodor received a "Making A Difference" award for his work during the 2017-18 school year.

"Everything is broken down, it's exact. He's designing stuff for mass production," said Derry Area Technology Education teacher David Vinopal, one of Fodor's high school instructors. "It speaks volumes of him being able to take that level of detail and apply it to the real world."

While he described Fodor as quiet, Vinopal said he was among his most dedicated students and viewed him as an ideal fit for H&W Global. Fodor, Vinopal said, was able to balance his high school studies and work at the company through online classes offered by the district.

"Jake kind of became an online student for me. We communicated through email and I had videos that showed him exactly what to do,"

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## 'The Fantas



James Gracie as Mortimer the mouse as Henry will go on a terrifying the "The Fantasticks" at 7:30 p.m. Main Theatre, 350 Main St., Latrobe, Pa. The show are "pay what you want" \$2 discount for senior citizens, call the Cabaret Theatre at 724-765-1111. The show is dedicated to the memory of...

## Miracles s Wedne

BY MARYANN GOGNIAT  
EIDEMILLER  
For The Bulletin

The little boy prays for cookies, and when he gets to where he's going, he's happy to find that there are cookies.

New law expands drug

EWCTC's

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two salons to gain additional experience.

"Every clinic day her chair is filled with a client, which is very exciting because we're trying to build our clinic in cosmetology," Youngstead said. "She's always bringing new people in. She's just passionate and a positive influence in the classroom. I cannot say enough about Alexis and in the program because she's just a pleasure to have."

Also on Wednesday, the JOC accepted the audit and fiscal management report of Homer, Wible & Terek, PC for the 2017-18 school year. It was an unmodified or clean opinion, which is the best a school or organization can receive.

The school also announced enrollment is currently at 542, which is an increase of 6 percent across the last year. There has been an increase in enrollment in computer engineering, digital media, health occupation and welding technology.

"I am excited to hear that and I appreciate the leadership," said Ligonier Valley JOC member Irv Tantlinger. "It all boils down to teachers in the classroom creating an environment where kids want to come to school."

Additionally, the Kennametal Foundation granted the school a three-year scholarship of \$13,500 — or \$4,500 per year — to be awarded to the top senior from each sending school. Awards will be \$1,500 each and presented during the annual senior recognition ceremony held in May.

The school's SkillsUSA program also expanded to 103 members, the highest ever in the program. Officers will attend the organization's leadership conference held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort from Wednesday, Oct. 31, to Friday, Nov. 2.

Also, cosmetology students will travel to Scare House to study career pathways and educational opportunities in theatrical makeup. Culinary students will tour food and beverage areas of PNC Park and Heinz Field and Graphic Communication students will tour Unity Printing.

The school will also host its annual fall open house for all students from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8. Parents and students can meet with two- and four-year postsecondary institutions, companies, unions, apprenticeship programs and military representatives.

The Red Cross club hosted a blood drive, collecting 38 units, which will help more than 100 patients.

Items also approved on Wednesday included:

- A team of two to attend the Standards Aligned Systems (SAS) Institute in Hershey from Dec. 9-12 at an approximate cost of \$1,200, to be paid for by the school;

- Campbell to attend the School Safety and Security Exchange from Nov. 8-9 in Hershey, at an approximate cost of \$600 to be paid for by the school;

- Youngstead and Dane Zimmer as SkillsUSA co-advisors at \$400 each;

- Carolyn Thomas as computer engineering technology teaching assistant at \$11 an hour to be paid for by the school;

- Layne Burd, mechatronics substitute retroactive to Oct. 22, and Thomas as a computer engineering technology substitute;

- Items for disposition consisting of obsolete inventory items by offering them to EWCTC students, member districts or private disposal;

- Authorize payment of November bills for utility, payroll and other payments approved by the JOC.

Recent

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Vinopal said of Fodor's high school workload, which included creating an operational three-wheeled cart with close to 70 parts. "With the software we use, the kids can share files with me and I can see the (progress) live as they work through it."

Derry Area students can explore their future paths an early age: Freshmen put together a PowerPoint presentation on a specific career; sophomores take aptitude testing and participate in career-related classroom activities; juniors conduct oral presentations on the career of their choice and then map out a pathway, and seniors can get real-world job experience before graduation day.

The district is currently working with the state as it relates to storing data, which is being placed on the Pennsylvania Career Zone website. Derry Area is among a dozen school districts statewide using software tied to the site, where students can discover local job opportunities, explore pathways and create a personalized career hub. Students are also able to produce career-related journals and save files through

the site.

Vinopal said many Derry Area projects focus on "realistic things" aimed at preparing students beyond high school. But even he didn't expect the heights Fodor has reached in such a short time — since January, he's received three promotions within the company.

"To put a high school student into that business, to work with people who do this every day and excel ... what he did surpassed anything I ever thought," Vinopal said of Fodor, who currently attends Westmoreland County Community College.

Fodor's success may also lead to future opportunities for Derry Area students. High school principal Casey Long said Platt has asked district officials if other students are interested in a career path similar to Fodor's.

"It was that dream scenario of the perfect kid at the right time who had the experience and who went to all the classes," Vinopal said. "By far one of the highlights of my teaching career is seeing what happens when the kids are outside these walls. For him to still be with (H&W Global) speaks volumes to his work ethic."

No big Powerball winner; jackpot now up to \$750 million

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — No one has won the big Powerball prize, so the estimated jackpot now grows to \$750 million — potentially the fourth-largest lottery jackpot in U.S. history.

The next drawing will be Saturday.

On Wednesday night, when it was at \$620 million, the Powerball jackpot looked sort of puny given all the attention lavished on the \$1.537 billion Mega Millions jackpot won in South Carolina on Tuesday. But with two giant prizes in one week, it was hard not to compare.

Only three lottery jackpots have been larger than the next Powerball prize.

No one has won the Powerball jackpot since Aug. 11, when a man from Staten Island, New York, won \$245.6 million.

Estimated \$750M

US brands falter in Consumer Reports