Focus

The ITAC Garfield-Palouse High School Pre-Apprentice Automotive Technician program offers semi-skilled work designed to introduce career options and hands-on learning in connection with the operation, maintenance and repair of automotive vehicles. As part of a pre-apprenticeship program, students will have exposure to the work environment, required mechanical skills, and real-life experience to help them explore career options as an apprentice which can lead to them having the opportunity to become a journey level technician.

The Automotive Industry (all pathways) need Maintenance and Repair Workers (general), Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics, Automotive Collision Techs etc. The employee supply shortfall is an underlying force the market needs to resolve one way or another. Employers are recruiting from further distances for these occupations, wages are going up to attract more candidates, and/or there is a demand for enticing wages so more local residents get training for these occupations. The local skills center is an hour and a half from the high school and students have difficulty participating. The goal of the ITAC Garfield-Palouse High School Pre-Apprenticeship Automotive Program is to assist with filling positions in these high demand areas.
Program Support

The ITAC Garfield-Palouse High School Pre-Apprentice Automotive Technician program is supported through Spokane Community College’s (SCC) Automotive Technology and Collision Repair program. McGregor (Agriculture) Co. is the primary site for job placement and youth work-based learning. These organizations and companies will assist with reinforcing workplace skills such as showing up on time, wearing the right clothes, working on a team and being responsive to a supervisor.

The Garfield-Palouse High School Automotive Technology program will provide career preparation through a combination of classroom instruction, earning industry recognized certificates and hands-on/work-based learning which will give students the confidence to enter the workforce. The current trend, we are seeing with students, is fear of post-high school. In this program, we want to give them easy access and opportunities to succeed while building skills that make them employable. The program teacher provides students the fundamental knowledge and experience needed to become entry level technicians in the automotive industry. The program is instructed by a CTE certified teacher with the support of the ITAC curriculum and program standards, mentors from the SCC Automotive Technology and Collision programs as well as North West Auto Care Alliance and the local industry partners.
Association of Washington Business
The Association of Washington Business is the oldest & largest statewide business association.

Paulette Beadling, Program Manager
360-943-1600

McGregor Agriculture
The McGregor Company serves growers in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon with the seed, crop inputs, equipment, research and advice needed to raise healthy sustainable crops.

Leslie Druffel, Outreach Coordinator
509-397-4355

Spokane Community College
Spokane Community College is a public community college in Spokane, Washington. It is part of the Community Colleges of Spokane and was established in 1963.

Paul Petretee, Automotive Technology Instructor
509-533-7097

Steven Mack, Automotive Collision Instructor
509-533-7109

Click to view our most recent event held at ESD 101!

CTE/CCL Middle School Equity Project Welcome Night

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