

Fall Spotlight

BLOOMINGTON AREA CAREER CENTER

Welcome to the Bloomington Area Career Center (BACC)! This school year finds us with over 600 students from 16 schools in our 14 different Career and Technical Education programs. We are thrilled that your son or daughter has joined us this year. Our six hundred students includes students attending BACC satellite programs at Tri-Valley, Normal West, Hairmasters Institute of Cosmetology, and Heartland Community College.

Throughout the year I encourage you ask your son or daughter for updates on what he or she is doing in class. Beyond the technical training we provide, we will be providing various opportunities, including building job readiness skills with resume and interviewing workshops. Job shadowing opportunities, field trips, and membership in SkillsUSA are also available to students. SkillsUSA is a co-curricular opportunity that allows students to compete against other students in the state in their training area, while providing students with leadership training.

Information regarding opportunities being offered at BACC will be made available to your students through their classroom teacher. In addition, our website (bacc.district87.org) also contains information about our programs and the various opportunities we offer. Bloomington Area Career Center is also found on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat—look us up and follow us to see the latest in classroom activities and opportunities we are offering. Here is a link to our [End of the Year Report](#).

I encourage you to keep in contact with us throughout the school year, especially with your son or daughter's classroom teacher. Generally, email is the easiest way to contact our teachers. Links can be found on our website for all of our instructors. In addition, you will have opportunities to visit the BACC, through events such as our Open Houses, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and for our awards ceremonies in the spring. We look forward to providing a unique and challenging experience for your student.

Tom Frazier-Director

BACC Calendar

Oct. 8

Columbus Day

No School

Oct. 19

School Improvement Day/No School

October 24

8th Grade Career Expo

8:00am-3:00pm

October 26

Parent-Teacher Conferences

No School

November 15

BACC Open House for Prospective Students

5:30pm-7:00pm

November 21, 22, 23

Thanksgiving Break/No School

Participating Schools

Bloomington

Blue Ridge

Calvary Christian

Central Catholic

Clinton

Cornerstone Christian

El Paso-Gridley

Fieldcrest

Heyworth

LeRoy

Lexington

Normal Community

Normal Community West

Olympia

Ridgeview

Tri-Valley

University High

A Little Bit About BACC

Dual Credits, Certifications and More Can Be Earned!

At the BACC, students are given career exploration opportunities while becoming better prepared for postsecondary education, advanced training, or the workforce. All of our courses prepare students for postsecondary training in their BACC area of study. Our students are given presentations and field trips that will orientate them to different postsecondary options. Last year, over 65 percent of our seniors planned on pursuing postsecondary training (college, community college, specialty school, military) in their area of study at BACC. In addition, many students earned industry recognized certifications, while many others dual credit hours with Heartland Community College, Illinois Central College and Joliet Junior College.

What's Happening at BACC...

Building it from the ground up!

Our BACC construction students have been working incredibly hard building a new home from the foundation up. The class is partnering with Habitat for Humanity in efforts to present a deserving family with a brand new home.

Currently, they are raising the first floor walls and hope to move on to the second floor within the next week. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Habitat for Humanity for their continued help and support! We could not do this without you! Keep of the hard work!!



Culinary Arts 'Food Cart Friday' Sales Beyond Expectation!

BACC Culinary Arts students ran their first 'Food Cart Friday' and the results were amazing! Culinary Arts I students made Cream of Chicken Soup and Culinary Arts II students whipped up Cheesy Potato Soup. Both sections SOLD OUT!

Great job, Culinary Arts! Keep up the amazing work!



BACC Bravado



Let's Eat!

Brittney McLawhorn from Johnson And Wales came to visit the Culinary Arts classes. She demonstrated the process of making spicy Thai noodles.



Automotive classes were able to visit UTI—Universal Technical Institute in Lisle, IL

Cosmetology Shout-Out!

This summer, Hairmasters Institute of Cosmetology offered a color class, and the following BACC cosmetology students took advantage of advancing their hours and knowledge!

Anahi Bolanos, NCH

Nallely Ortiz, NCH

Shelby Baker, TRI

Leanna LaRose, NCH

Julio Hernandez, NCH

Kamryn Bond, NCW

Mersades Wheeler, CLI

Audra Bachman, HEY

Elizabeth Gulley, TRI

We are so proud of all of you!



Fire Science students got to visit Fire Station 3 in Normal to look over a few rescue vehicles.



We would like to take a moment to honor Mr. Greg Patton whom we lost this past August. Mr. Patton will be terribly missed by students and staff alike. He taught our students many life lessons above and beyond the basic core curriculum. Today and every day we honor and miss him.

Student Services Corner

Hello BACC parents and students. My name is **Peggy Arbuckle**, and I would like to introduce myself as the Student Services Coordinator for the BACC. There are many opportunities that await your students here at the Center. Each month one second year student is selected to be the BACC Normal Rotary Student of the Month. This student attends the Normal Rotary meetings and is eligible for a scholarship at the end of the year.

Another opportunity for students is to be part of the National Technical Honor Society. This is an organization that honors outstanding student achievement in the Career and Technical Education fields. Students are nominated by their BACC teachers and then evaluated by a membership panel. Induction takes place second semester. Students can also develop their leadership skills by joining our Student Ambassador Team. Student Ambassadors are the face of the Bloomington Area Career Center. Many classes have the opportunity to earn dual credit through Heartland Community College, Illinois Central College, Joliet Junior College, and University of Iowa.

The Student Services office also oversees the management of IEP's and accommodations at the Center. We will meet with students who need extra help understanding and studying their course material. We also work with the instructors and home schools to meet those needs. Please feel free to contact me during your student's training at the Bloomington Area Career Center to further your student's success.

Mrs. Peggy Arbuckle-Career Services Coordinator Ex. 5183 or arbucklep@district87.org

My name is **Nicole Meyer**, and I am the Business and Community Coordinator here at the BACC. I work with local businesses to help students get real-life experiences through field trips, guest speakers, job shadowing and internships. I am also available to help students apply for college, financial aid, and scholarships. This year I will continue to co-sponsor our student organization, SkillsUSA, with Ms. White. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Ms. Nicole Meyer-Business & Community Coordinator Ex. 5163 or meyern@district87.org

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New Faces at BACC



Tammy Barba joins BACC as a new Nurse Assisting instructor. Before homeschooling her kids, Tammy was a family nurse practitioner at Medical Hills Internist. Now that all of her kids are in high school and college, she is excited for a new adventure teaching here at the BACC. She enjoys spending time with her family and her four dogs. Welcome to BACC, Mrs. Barba!

Jeff Caughron joins BACC as the new instructor for the Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement program. Jeff is a retired Police Officer having served on the Normal Police Department for 28 years. Along with law enforcement, early in his life, Jeff always had a dream of being a teacher. He's excited to be here and looks forward to spending time in the classroom with his students. Jeff is also an avid photographer and loves spending time with his three grandsons, Cooper, Finnegan, and Macallan. Welcome to BACC, Mr. Caughron!!



Tiffani Creamean is a cosmetology teacher joining BACC this year. She is also a Bloomington Area Career Center graduate and went on to finish at Hairmasters. Before joining BACC she was a preschool assistant teacher in Mackinaw. She lives here in town with her husband Trevor and 5 year old son Brody.

Christi Henning has been a Clinical Site Supervisor for the CNA program for five years. She is joining the team as a CNA Instructor this year, allowing her to teach in the classroom as well as at the clinical site. Christi has been a Registered Nurse for 10 years, and was an EMT-P for several years before that. She is excited to be in the classroom this year so she can get to know the students and staff at BACC more closely!



Kyle Tieman joins BACC as a co-teacher for the EMT-B program. He works for the Bloomington Fire Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic. Kyle is previously from La Salle and moved to Bloomington about a year ago. When not at work, you can find him on the golf course or enjoying his time with friends and family.

David White joins BACC as the new Fire Science Instructor. David is a Firefighter/Engineer with the Bloomington Fire Department and has been working there for 15 years. He is a father of two and enjoys concerts and going to the beach when life gets too stressful. He is excited about working with the students and staff at BACC.



BACC Students Compete at 2018 SkillsUSA Nationals Championship

The Bloomington Area Career Center (BACC) took nine student competitors and two recent graduates to the 2018 SkillsUSA National Championships in Louisville, Kentucky, June 23-28. These students represented the State of Illinois in eight different Career and Technical Education based competitions against the top students from 50 states and 3 US territories.

2018 BACC SkillsUSA National Results are as follows:

- 7th- **Julia Hilt** (Bloomington HS) in Nurse Assisting
- 10th- **Kayla Jones** (Normal West HS) in Medical Terminology
- 15th- **Sara Welander** (LeRoy HS) in Pin Design
- 21st- **Parker Nishida** (Bloomington HS) in Technical Computer Applications
- 22nd- **Hadley McKenzie** (LeRoy HS) in T-Shirt Design
- 27th- **Cassie Meyers** (Fieldcrest) in Welding Sculpture
- 28th- **Zach Burris** (Bloomington HS), **Mirza Celis** (Bloomington HS), **Matt Trimble** (Normal West HS) in Crime Scene Investigation

In addition, BACC Cosmetology Graduates **Laura Coronel** (Bloomington High School) and **Rebekah Hagberg** (Normal West High School) were chosen to compete for a spot on the SkillsUSA Worlds Team in the Hairdressing Competition. After two days of head to head competition, Rebekah Hagberg, was chosen to represent the United States of America in the Hairdressing Competition in Kazan, Russia, in August 2019.



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held at BACC according to the following schedule:

Thursday, October 25
4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. Scheduled Conferences

Friday, October 26
7:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m. Scheduled Conferences

PLEASE NOTE:

Parent -Teacher Conferences for Mrs. Riehle's/Ms. Henning's Nurse Assisting classes and Ms. White's Graphic Design and Video Production class will be held according to the following schedule:

Friday, October 26th
7:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m. Scheduled Conferences
12:15 p.m.—2:30 p.m. Scheduled Conferences

We will be scheduling conferences online through Skyward. If you do not have parent access through Skyward, please go to the Skyward Login tab on the BACC website.

How to schedule using Skyward: Go to this link to watch a "how-to" video (goo.gl/tUJQAc)

Please don't hesitate to call the main office at BACC if you have any questions. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with you to help your student achieve success.

BACC office: (309)-829-8671

Cosmetology Conferences will be held at **Hairmasters** on Thursday evening and Friday morning. To schedule an appointment, call Hairmasters at (309) 828-1884.

Metals Conferences: To schedule an appointment with **Mr. Slater**, please email at gary.slater@heartland.edu or call (309) 370-9013.

To schedule an appointment with **Mr. McFarland**, please call the **Tri-Valley** office at 309-378-2911.

They will host conferences on Thursday, 10/11 – 1:20 – 7:20pm
Friday, 10/12 – 8:20 – 11:20am

Geo/Construction Conferences: To schedule an appointment with our satellite teachers, please email the teacher directly:

Mr. Lehr at LEHRDM@unit5.org

Mr. Sondgeroth at sondgerothm@unit5.org