

# **“Notes From School”**

## **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

February has been designated as National Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month. The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) utilizes the campaign in order to raise public awareness and to celebrate CTE achievement and accomplishments of various programs across the country. The theme for 2016 is, "Opportunities for Career Success". CTE plays an integral role in readying both our students for careers and our nation for economic success.

According to the US Department of Education, almost all high school students take at least one CTE course, and one in four students take three or more courses in a single program area. Students in Mondovi High School are able to select CTE courses in Agricultural Science, Business Education, Family and Consumer Science, and Technology Education. Some of our High School courses have been articulated with instructors at Chippewa Valley Technical College, which allows students to earn both High School and Technical College credit upon successful completion of their class. Additionally, Mondovi High School offers co-curricular CTE opportunities outside the classroom by allowing participation in SkillsUSA, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), and the National FFA Organization.

CTE programs provide students of all ages with preparation for a wide range of careers and further educational opportunities. CTE courses prepare students to be career and college ready. Students report that CTE programs helped them to develop problem-solving, project completion, research, math, college application, work-related, communication, time management, and critical thinking skills during high school. In addition, CTE students are provided opportunities to obtain job-specific technical skills related to the 16 career clusters and over 80 pathways. The pathways include a variety of postsecondary options including industry-recognized credentials, postsecondary certificates, two-year degrees, and four-year degrees.

In celebrating CTE month, we recognize students, parents, businesses, educators, and community leaders who are helping transform CTE and achieve our shared mission of character, work ethic, citizenship, and academic achievement for all students.