

TECH TALK

What's new at Crawford Tech

October was packed full of activities at Crawford Tech. Our staff, instructors and students have been quite busy! From 10-16 through 10-26-23 Crawford Tech hosted our annual 9th grade tours. This year a total of 617 freshman from our local school districts visited each shop at Crawford Tech. As a result of these tours hundreds of students show interest in becoming future Crawford Tech students. Great job Mrs. Peterson and thanks to all of our instructors and students involved. Meanwhile, our students and instructors were busy preparing for the Halloween parade. This year Crawford Tech chose Ghostbusters as our theme. Diesel Tech, Auto Tech, Carpentry, Drafting, Welding, Electronics Technology and Sports Med worked tirelessly on the float. Skills USA is also a vital piece of our annual Halloween float. All Skills USA students are able to be part of the Halloween Parade. And, Skills USA financially sponsors Crawford Tech's float through the purchase of decorations and all of the candy given out during the parade. Yet again, Crawford Tech won the Grand Champion Youth Float category and was a runner-up in the Non-Profit Float Category. Great job EVERYONE!!



Skills USA at Crawford Tech

Skills USA sponsored our first annual pumpkin decorating contest in October. Crawford Tech students in each shop worked in teams to decorate one pumpkin for the competition. Pumpkin designs ranged from cute, technical and scary to downright eerie and gruesome! Students, instructors, staff and members of our Joint Operating Committee took part in voting for their favorite pumpkin. Our morning Drafting students took first place this year. Check out their grisly pumpkin below. Skills USA also elected it's annual officers in October.

The morning session officers this year are:

- President: Megan Puleio/Sports Medicine
- Vice President: Leah Sample/Sports Medicine
- Secretary: Emma Blair/Health Occupations
- Treasurer: Kai Herzog/Computer
- Reporter: Courtney Perrye/Vet Sciences
- Parliamentarian: Levi Motter/Health Occupations
- Delegate: Kennedy Williams/Vet Sciences

Skills USA afternoon officers:

- President: Dominic Kightlinger/Auto Tech
- Vice President: Kylie Shrock/Cosmetology
- Secretary: Trenton Bowen/Culinary Arts
- Treasurer: Maxx Feather/Electrical Occupations
- Reporter: Maggie Aitken/Vet Sciences
- Parliamentarian: Gino Gilberto/Welding
- Delegate: David Wade/Vet Sciences

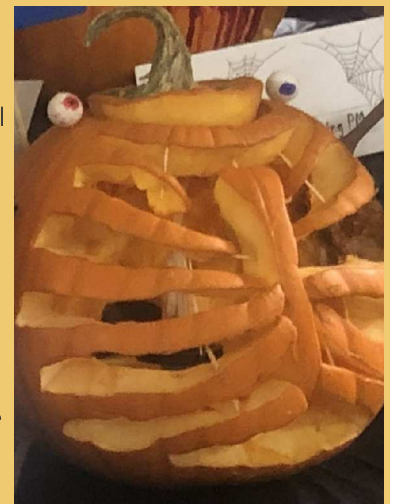
Skills USA is sponsoring a "No Miss November" contest. The Crawford Tech shop with perfect attendance in November wins a Hot Dog Bar Party. Lastly, the first week of November is Skills USA sign up for students who are interested in becoming an active, competing member. The fee is \$13 dollars. Questions should be directed to Mr. or Mrs. Saulsbery.

BOO!!

Morning Drafting took first place with our annual pumpkin decorating contest. This guy looks like he has seen better days. Great job morning Drafting and Design Tech students!!



Check out Mr. Costa as he walks with our Tech Students at the Parade.



TECH TALK

Instructor Spotlight Jim Hillwig

Jim Hillwig our Precision Machining Instructor for the past 25 years recently decided to retire. He graciously agreed to be interviewed for our November issue of Tech Talk.

How did you know it was time to retire? *As I spent time in local machine shops the last several years, I realized the major advancements in technology. In order for me to stay up with current trends I would need to further my education and I was at a point in my life I didn't want to do that anymore. That was when I knew retirement would be soon, and also best for the students and the future of the Precision Machining Program.*

What did you most enjoy about being an instructor here? *Being a part of the student's growth and success. I loved witnessing those "light bulb" moments.*

Who have been your favorite people to work with over the years?
EVERYONE!

What would your students and colleagues be surprised to learn about you? *I went to college to become a music teacher. When my wife and I started our family, I became a machinist. Later, I went to school to become a PA State Trooper and had passed all my classes and was about to enter the PA State Police Academy when I had my accident in 1991 and was seriously injured. That chain of events led me to Crawford Tech, which became my home for 25 wonderful years. I truly believe I was brought to Crawford Tech for a reason.*

Fondest memory? *I was awarded the Technology Education's Outstanding Teacher of the Year by the U.S. Air Force from 2001-2009. I've never known which students nominated me all those years. It was an honor.*

Embarrassing teaching moment? *Once when my class wasn't paying attention to a project, I made them all stand around me as I made the part on the machine. When I finished we all realized I had made the part completely backwards! I told my students I did it on purpose.*

If you could pass on any wisdom to your students and colleagues, what would it be? *You must always be your genuine self because most people will see right through you. Find something you love and keep doing it. Lastly, you never know where life will lead you.*

HAPPY RETIREMENT JIM AND BEST OF LUCK!!

Crawford Tech November Birthdays

Auto Collision: Carlisle Cates~11-10, Luke McGill~11-29
Jordan Rhoades~11-14
Computer: Carl Walk~11-6
Cooperative Education: Lily Walker~11-8
Cosmetology: Damuree Gavin~ 11-21, Sophia Mott~11-10,
Casey Stein~11-4.
Diesel Tech: Bryce Brown~11-13, Trevor Raney~11-30,
Christopher White~11-9
Drafting and Design: Brock Anderson~11-14
Electrical Occupations: Maxx Feather~11-11, Alexander
Hauf~11-30, Jordan Kohler~11-6, Wyatt Kornman~11-14,
Andrew Markiewicz~11-5.
Electronics Tech: Annelise Carless~11-16, Markeise
Harris~11-14, Spencer Lupo~11-11.
Health Occupations: Araina Hannan~11-4, Daylyn
Hetrick~11-22, Zailey Lutz~11-18.
HVAC: Hilton Briggs~11-17, Luke Olenick~11-6.
Precision Machining: Dakota Newell~11-30
Christopher Villani~11-14.
Sports Med: Brighton Anderson~11-15, Ty Tidball~11-3.
Welding: Jordan Guseman~11-30, Savana Major~11-23,
Braeligh VanSise~11-6, Parker Dailey~11-21, Hayden
Longo~11-28, Zachary Zubick~11-22.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY CRAWFORD TECH
STUDENTS!**

Upcoming Events/Important Dates:

11-7: First official Skills USA meeting

11-15-23: Crawford Tech open house from 6-8 pm.
Please come check out all that is Crawford Tech! Also
Daffin's candy sales close.

November 22-November 27: Thanksgiving break.
School resumes on Tuesday November, 28.

November 23: Thanksgiving Day

**Check out these Diesel Tech students hard
at work on the Halloween Float!**



TECH TALK

Deep Thoughts With Student Services

We've all heard the phrase "laughter is the best medicine." But how DOES laughter affect our bodies and overall health and well-being? If you Google laughter, the research is rather impressive.

Laughter reduces stress and improves our mood by releasing serotonin, dopamine and oxytocin. A healthy dose of laughter every day lowers anxiety and depression while increasing our energy and immune system. Laughter can also protect us from cardiovascular disorders and, because laughter releases natural endorphins it has also been shown to reduce pain.

Laughter improves our self-esteem. By making others laugh we gain our own sense of personal satisfaction.

Laughter also positively impacts our social health and is a social phenomenon found in all cultures. It is proven that whether it's at work, among friends or families; those groups that regularly laugh together form stronger bonds than groups who do not. In fact, parents who laugh regularly with their kids have better overall communication, trust, and closer relationships with their children. Laughter also increases our cognitive function regardless of age. Recent research shows laughter and humor in the classroom improves student attendance, participation, and success. Humor makes class more enjoyable and memorable which translates to the retention of course material. Human brains are more likely to retain information that is associated with strong emotional responses like laughter. A class full of laughter is a positive experience for students giving them a sense of belonging. When students are relaxed and having fun in class they are much more likely to engage, be more creative and have increased problem solving ability. In addition, laughter is a powerful tool for building strong student-teacher relationships. This is all part and parcel of our social and emotional learning journey here at Crawford Tech. Let's add a bit more laughter to our everyday lives. The rewards might just be huge for all of us.

Until Next Month~~

The Student Services Team

Just for FUN

I recently ran into an old student of mine who said, "I always liked you. You never had favorites. You were just mean to everyone."

In my 9th grade Health class I asked the question, "What happens to young women as they mature?" One male student answered, "They start to carry a purse!"

I had finished an English lecture when a 10th grade student stayed behind to confront me. He said, "I don't appreciate being singled out!" Confused I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "I don't know what the 'oxy' part means, but I know what a moron is and you looked straight at me when you said it!"

