

Barre Technical Center State of School Report 2014-2015

The Barre Technical Center serves students from 6 regional high schools: Cabot, Twinfield, Montpelier, U-32, Harwood and Spaulding. We also have students who come from other high schools in the area if their local technical center does not offer a similar technical program, i.e. Northfield and Williamstown.

We welcomed 178 students into our programs this year. Our enrollment is slightly down from the previous year due to the closing of one program. However, we have opened a new program, Natural Resources and Sustainable Technology! They venture off site and partner with these local businesses: The City of Barre Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee, Dog River Farm, Bear Roots Farm, Barre City Elementary School Garden Coordinator, Barre Town Elementary School Trails Group, Barre Town Elementary School Garden Committee, The City of Barre Bike Path Committee, The City of Barre Director of Cemeteries and Parks, Hubbard Park Manager/Tree Warden, Liberty Tree Orchard, The Wastewater Treatment Plant (tour only), The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District, Hunger Mountain Coop and the Granite City Grocer.

Our partnerships with local industry are supported through our Cooperative Education Program. Annually, this program provides between 16-24 students with paid and unpaid career work experiences. We also support our entire student population through job shadow opportunities.

The month of October was particularly busy with Open House where we welcomed over 200 community members, students, families, and board members all coming together under one roof to celebrate our students! In addition to Open House we sponsored over 70 young women to attend the Women Can Do Conference held at Vermont Technical College. This event focuses on exposing young women to non-traditional career fields. Over 400 young women attend this program each year representing our female technical/trades students in grades 9-12.

In relation to marketing and recruitment our Guidance Coordinator is closely involved with all of our sending high schools and middle schools. We reach out to students in the middle school years to assist with their future career planning in grades 9-12. It is crucial for students in the 8th grade to have discussions with support personnel in their schools to develop a four-year plan and the Barre Technical Center is considered an option that may interest many students. In support of Career and Technical Education, we are proud to say that 90% of our seniors go on to post secondary, into the workforce or military training when they leave the Barre Technical Center!

We are proud to provide educational opportunities for adults across our region both in the evening and during the day. Evening programs range from a Plumbing or Electrical Apprenticeship (through Vermont Technical College) to LNA (Licensed Nursing Assistant) to CDA (Child Development Associate), Excel/Word, CPR and First Aid. The evening program hosts up to 200 adults each week from September through June. Please watch your local paper or call 476-6237, ext. 1145 for more details.

We would like to take this opportunity to "Thank" our **Regional Advisory Board Members**. They come together each quarter and support our students and programs. Thank you for your time and participation! From Twinfield and Cabot: Nancy Thomas, Mark Mooney, Patrick Healy and Roy Hoffman; from U-32 Bill Kimball and Emily Goyette; from Spaulding/Barre, John Bacon, Luke Aither and Giuliano Cecchinelli; from Harwood, Lisa Atwood and Michael Woods; from Montpelier, Ken Jones, Brian Ricca and Adam Bunting. Joining us from Industry is Ian Arnold from the Northfield Savings Bank and Jeff Norway from Norway Electric. Ed Pcolar of Cabot Creamery and Kim Chapin of Northfield Savings Bank resigned this year after several years of service! *Thank you Ed and Kim!*

Our **Outstanding Teacher of the Year for 2014** is **Steve Coultas**, Building Trades Instructor. He received overwhelming support for this nomination from both students and staff. Mr. Coultas leads his students each year through the process of building a 5 star energy home! If you are interested in owning one of these homes, please call or stop by for a visit.

The Technical Center Faculty and Staff invite you to stop in to the Center for a visit and tour. Please call 476-6237 for more information. Our technical programs continue to be of high interest and high demand to the students in our region. Please visit our website: www.barretechnicalcenter.org to see what the students have been doing – the site is updated regularly by our own Digital Media Arts Program students and faculty.

*We are **YOUR** Regional Technical Center! We appreciate your continued support!*

Sincerely,
Penny Chamberlin
Director
&
Scott Griggs
Assistant Director