

# Cambridge High School Celebrates Career and Technical Education Month

In recognition of February as Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month, CHS would like to highlight the tremendous experiences available to students. CTE classes at Cambridge High School allow students to explore career options, gain valuable industry relevant experience and prepare for future schooling and successful employment.

## Agriculture

Instructor: Emily Green

The Agriculture Department prepares students for careers in Animal Science, Plant Science, Natural Resources and Environmental Systems. Classwork, FFA, and Supervised Agricultural Experiences all play an important role in the program. Students have the opportunity to learn about many aspects of the agriculture industry, practice leadership skills and receive practical job/career experience. Our facilities include a greenhouse and an eighty acre learning center.

### Department Highlights:

*Severson Learning Center* – The learning center is an 80 acre property owned by the school district and available to all grade levels. Students in Horticulture and Natural Resources spend many class periods at the learning center working with the Food Pantry Garden, studying wildlife, working with forestry applications, etc.

*Ag Industry Trip to World Dairy Expo* – Animal Science students attend workshops, watch breed shows and interact with dairy industry people from all over the world.

*Hands-On Experience for Everyone* - Students in all classes spend a minimum of 10 hours outside of class working in agriculture. Students raise animals, work at an agriculture-related job, volunteer, job shadow or conduct their own research project. Students keep record of hours, income and skills/knowledge acquired.

*Student-led Ag. Education Activities* –At the annual Farm Day at Severson Learning Center, high school students lead activities and teach Cambridge Elementary kids about raising animals and growing plants.

*Cambridge FFA Chapter* – FFA is a co-curricular organization focusing on leadership, student growth and career success through Agricultural Education. Cambridge FFA has increased its membership by over twenty students and now offers FFA activities for middle school students. Students are active year round participating in leadership conferences and contests, exhibiting at county fairs and serving the community.

### Course Offerings

Plants, Animals and You

Horticulture I and II  
Animal Science  
Small Animal/Vet Science  
Natural Resources I and II

## **Business Education/Information Technology & Marketing**

Instructors: Julie Woletz and Jessica Fritz

The Business Education/Information Technology and Marketing Department welcomes the challenges of continuing to prepare high school students to be successful in their careers and further education. Advancements in technology require constant program updates to ensure that courses and topics taught are preparing students for the “real world” after they graduate, whether they are moving straight to the workplace, or continuing their education. The department offers a wide variety of courses in both Business and Marketing.

### Department Highlights and Course Offerings

*Microsoft Office Certification Program Available*– Over 200 CHS graduates have earned certification.

*New dual credit agreements in place with Madison College* - Students who earn a C or better in Word, Excel or Accounting are able to also earn credit at the college level.

*Personal Finance Class* –Now required of all students prior to graduation. Cambridge High School feels strongly the need to prepare students for their financial future. This class provides students with knowledge about goal setting, budgeting, saving, investing, credit, banking services, home ownership/renting, insurance, estate planning.

*Careers Class* - Required of all sophomore students. This class gives them the foundation they will need to be successful while searching for a job and looking at their post secondary options. Students write letters of application, thank you notes, fill out job applications, explore where to find job openings, practice job interviews, and even learn to tie a tie! Students also explore different career areas and take self assessments to find out what career area might interest them.

*Cooperative Education Program for all disciplines* - This is a senior program coordinated through the business department where students are allowed to leave school for a portion of the day to attend work. The students are supervised by a workplace mentor, and follow a training plan to ensure they learn more than what a typical part-time employee would learn. Students can earn up to 3 credits for the year while in this supervised work program. The classroom component teaches students general work skills, including human relations, teamwork, communication, and time management. Several of the participants in this program have obtained full-time positions with their mentors after

graduation. Others have received valuable work lessons that they will take with them into their future careers.

*Software Applications Class Offerings* - Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, 2010, Desktop Publishing using Adobe InDesign and PhotoShop, and Web Page development using Adobe GoLive. Next year the yearbook will be designed and published through a class, where students will have the opportunity to learn more about layout and copy writing.

*Course taught in an online format* - So many businesses and post-secondary education institutions require employees and students to take online courses that we felt it was necessary to expose students to this type of learning environment while they still had the resources available to provide them with help.

*Business Law Class participates in Mock Trial and Courtroom field trip* - Contract law is the main focus of the class, but students also participate in a mock trial, where they become the judge, attorneys, and witnesses who “perform” the case in front of their peers, who serve as the jury. Field trips to a real courthouse and a tour of a county jail have been part of the class in past years.

*Marketing I and II* courses equip students with a variety of skills, including: economics, product development, selling, and entrepreneurship.

*DECA Organization Grows* - The co-curricular organization DECA provides students the opportunity to apply what they’ve learned in through competition and community service, which benefits the Cambridge community. Over the past year and half, CHS DECA has created a strong presence in the high school and the community and has seen membership increase from 19 last year to 31 this school year. During the 2011 competition season, the chapter earned three top 4 finishes and sent one competitor all the way to the International Career Development Conference in Orlando, FL. In addition, members work all year round to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy research and work with various community organizations that assist those in need.

## **Family and Consumer Sciences**

Instructor: Cheryl Mortensen

The Family and Consumer Sciences department prepares students for careers in Health Care, Child Care, Food/Restaurant Industry and Fashion and Home Interior Design.

### Department Highlights

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders just tested a new career interest program called Drive of Your Life. It takes them through discovering what interests and attitudes they have to exploring careers that match their profiles. They research salary, prospects, what a typical day is like, education required, and identify high school classes to guide them toward their goal.

ProStart students will be completing their ServSafe training so that they are certified to serve in commercial kitchens. They are looking forward to learning the professional cooking techniques and terminology that chefs use.

Working with Children classes will be working with Pleasantime Child Care to observe and apply classroom principles in a real world environment. As a part of this class they can earn an Assistant Child Care Teacher certificate.

Medical Terminology classes are hard at work learning the combining forms, prefixes and suffixes that make up the language medical professionals use.

Fashion and Interior Design classes are examining the elements of design as applied to figure analysis in preparation for designing and sewing a dress of their own creation.

#### Classes Offered

Introduction to Health Occupations

Medical Terminology

Parents and Children

Working with Children

Foods I and II

Pro Start I and II

Contemporary Living

Fashion/Housing Careers

## **Technology & Engineering**

Instructor: Dan Biddick

The Technology and Engineering Department at Cambridge High School prepares students for careers in Manufacturing, Construction and Engineering. New courses offered next year incorporate new technology and hands-on applications in digital production and engineering design.

#### **Department Highlights**

On October 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (previously WEAC convention day), Mr. Biddick attended a small engines class at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton. Cambridge High School received **24 small engines** for his participation in the class. The 24 small engines were a donation from Wisconsin's own Kohler Company (Kohler, WI). Mr. Biddick is excited to offer the newly updated Small Engines course which involves training in the principles of small engine operation.



#### **Classes Offered**

Digital Production - \*New Offering  
(Graphics, Video Production & Editing)  
Small Engines (see above) \*New Offering  
Engineering Design (3-d Modeling) \*New Offering  
Intro to Technology & Engineering (9<sup>th</sup> grade-1 Semester)  
Basic Electricity  
Wood Technology  
Metals Technology  
Construction Technology  
Green Technology  
Materials & Manufacturing Technology