

# CAREER COUNSELOR CORNER



Spring 2.0 2021

Helping Our Students Get Ready to Launch

Vol. 4



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*Don't worry about being  
successful but work toward  
being significant and the success  
will naturally follow.*

*- Oprah Winfrey*

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# CAREER CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

In our last edition, we shared numerous summer camp opportunities for students. We wanted to continue that discussion and share additional career readiness options. Many are free and require minimal investment of time. In addition, they offer our children chances to learn more about themselves, understand the world of work, connect to community resources, and continue career conversations at home. As you continue to work on your summer planning, consider some of the following activities to help your child continue both their career exploration and career development:

**Virtual or In Person Field Trips/ College Visits:** Consider scheduling an in person or virtual trip to a local college or museum for a day dedicated to learning. [Here are 42 virtual field trips ideas.](#)

**Online Career Focused Groups** (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, or Youtube) There are many groups, pages, or blogs dedicated to a specific career field. Following or joining a page is an easy way for students to learn about a day in the life of a particular field, get connected with a professional, and organizations of support.

**Taking college classes in the summer** Many colleges open their doors to younger students for enrichment opportunities during the summer months. Your teen may decide to take an advanced math course or explore coursework that's not available at their local high school. Some high schools may give students credit for this coursework, but speak with your child's counselor before you register.

**Informational Interviews** give us an opportunity to talk with professionals about the work they do and learn more about both their educational and professional path. Encouraging your child to talk with neighbors, relatives, and family friends about their work will give them a head start on having a better understanding of the world of work. This will help them begin to think critically about their own educational and career path. Here are some sample [Questions To Ask During An Informational Interview](#) . Your child may want to select a few of them for a 30 minute informational interview.

**Virtual Volunteer Opportunities** If your child is looking for a way to connect and remain safe at home this summer, volunteering online is one way to go. It's a great way to give back to the community and build new skills. Check out the following websites:

- [VolunteerMatch](#)
- [All For Good](#)
- [United Way of Southeastern Michigan](#)
- [Gleaners Food Bank](#)



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## CELEBRATE PROFESSIONAL TRADES MONTH



May is **Professional Trades Month** in Michigan. Many businesses require highly skilled workers to fill a multitude of trades in health care, construction, manufacturing and service industries. We rely on these professionals to fix our cars, install plumbing, build our homes, draw our blood, and make sure our computer networks run efficiently. Many of these in-demand jobs do not require a four-year degree; some short-term certifications take less than a year to complete. Professional trades will account for nearly 530,000 jobs in the Michigan economy through 2028, and approximately 47,000 job openings are expected annually in the state during this time.



Professional Trades offer a chance for high-skill, high-paid jobs within in-demand career fields. Resources like [Going PRO in Michigan](#) and the [Wayne RESA Workforce Development Initiative's Database](#) highlight short-term certifications and stackable credentials that not only prepare students to be successful in the professional trades, they guide them towards realistic, obtainable first steps towards a successful, high-paid career.



On May 11th, [MLTAI](#) (Michigan Laborers' Training & Apprenticeship Institute) joined Wayne RESA's Ready to Launch Career Counselors for a [virtual session detailing their apprenticeship training](#) available to students to become a licensed Construction Craft Laborer. This is an open opportunity to start your career in a high-pay, high skill, in-demand field. If you like working with your hands and are interested in earning a wage & benefits while you learn, follow the above links to learn more.



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## MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

May is also **Mental Health Awareness Month**. It is the time the world has set aside to bring attention to the importance of one's mental health and provide resources for emotional well-being. It is important to be aware of mental health every day, not just during the Month of May.

Day to day events that take place in a person's life, community, nation and world can have minor or major effects on mental and emotional health. In addition, a lack of sunlight, poor diet, unemployment, underemployment, stress, grief, fear, or trauma can all lead to challenges with our mental stability. We all face daily stressors that may impact our ability to endure. There are times when we become unstable and need to seek an outside source for inner strength.

That outside source can be a friend, an app, prayer, meditation, mindfulness or a therapy session. It does not matter which resource a person chooses. What's most important is that they choose something that will address the issue and bring about inner peace and wellbeing.

### Here are a few resources to help:

- [This informal assessment](#) by the National Institute of Mental Health can help you determine how much your symptoms interfere with your daily life.
- In addition, the NAMI Michigan has created a [resource guide](#) for Families Dealing with Mental Illness
- [Free Mental Health Apps](#)
- [Eating Well for Mental Health](#)
- [Mindfulness Exercises](#)



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## ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS

Whether your teen is headed off to college, a new job, or both, it's an exciting time for all. Most will have the opportunity to develop and form new relationships, become more independent, and take significant steps towards completing their goals.

As we celebrate commencement, it's important to remember that while change is exciting, it can also be challenging. So it's important to prepare for the transition to come. Consider assessing what skills your teen may still need as they start that new job or head off to their college dorm in the fall.

Think about the following areas: **time management, stress management, money management, assertiveness and asking for help.** It may be helpful to reflect on your teen's development in these areas and offer strategies for success. How do they feel about these topics? What concerns might they have about their transition? What tools or campus supports might be available? **For more information and tips to get started, see *Compelling Reads* on page 7 of this newsletter.**



## CAREERS IN PUBLIC SAFETY AND REAL ESTATE

The month of April had us engaging in two Career Chats. Career Counselors highlighted opportunities in Public Safety and Real Estate and encouraged students to explore the many pathways in these important fields. Students learned there are different directions to follow in these career pathways. The professionals we spoke with had all levels of degrees, certifications and experiences that led them to their current career destinations.

### WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO NOW TO GET STARTED IN A PUBLIC SAFETY OR REAL ESTATE CAREER?

- Explore related coursework at your local community college
- Watch [Public Safety](#) & [Real Estate](#) career videos on [My Next Move](#) to see a first-hand look at careers
- Sign up for a related elective or CTE course at your high school
- Talk with a family member, friend or neighbor who works in the career field
- Attend a virtual open house or admissions event
- Explore possible careers with the resources below

### CAREERS CHAT RESOURCES:

[PUBLIC SAFETY CAREER CHAT 4/20 RESOURCES](#)

[REAL ESTATE ROUNDTABLE CAREER CHAT 4/29 RESOURCES](#)

[MICHIGAN CAREER OUTLOOK](#)

[BROWSE TRAINING & DEGREE PROGRAMS](#)



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## HELPING YOUR TEEN PREPARE FOR A JOB INTERVIEW!

As the summer approaches, a lot of teenagers are starting to look for a summer job. This can be an overwhelming process, especially if this is their first time. In the last [newsletter](#), we looked at how to search for job opportunities, build a resume, and prepare for that job by improving one's soft skills. Now let's look at techniques your son or daughter should use to prepare for a job interview.



- Practice [interview questions](#) at home with parents or friends
- Be present
  - Answer the questions that were asked
- Bring a [resume](#)
  - With contact information and strong references
- First impressions matter:
  - Remember proper grooming & appearance
  - Get a good night's sleep
  - Be on time
  - Have a positive attitude
- Be able to show knowledge about the company
- Practice video chatting and [video etiquette](#) (if virtual)
  - Create an artificial background
  - Test all technology beforehand
  - Pre-emptive muting is our friend
- Follow up with a thank you note or email

Now your son & daughter are ready to practice and do their very best at their [job interview](#). Remind them not to expect too much too soon; no one owes them a job, they will have to earn it. With good preparation and a positive attitude, they have their best chance at being successful and landing that summer job.



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# FINANCIAL AID NEWS FOR JUNIORS

As our seniors are heading off towards the next leg of their journey, we wanted to help our juniors get a head start on their financial aid planning. Here are some steps recommended for rising seniors and their families:

- **CREATE AN FSAID** – Your FSAID acts as your username and password for your financial aid application. Separate FSAIDs are required for parents/guardians and students. Go [here](#) to create your FSAID and store it in a safe place.
- Curious about how much financial aid assistance your student could be eligible for? **USE THE [FAFSA4CASTER](#) TO ESTIMATE YOUR CHILD'S FINANCIAL AID**
- **ADD OCTOBER 1st** to your calendar. This is the date that the FAFSA 2022-2023 application will become available. Class of 2022 graduates should complete the FAFSA application for the year they'll first be enrolled in college or trade school.
- **PRINT THE UASPIRE CHECKLIST.** This [checklist](#) is a great tool to help guide and support the financial aid process.
- **EXPLORE SCHOLARSHIPS** – Scholarship awards often run in cycles and occur annually. Review your school's local scholarship board or website for annual scholarships and add them to your calendar. Check out [MI Student Aid Scholarship Best Practices](#) for more information.



## COMPELLING READS

**College Planning and Money Management for Parents**

**Budgeting Tips for Students**

**7 Money Moves Every Teen Should Make**

**What is a Credit Score and Why Does It Matter?**

## VIRTUAL EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



Seniors, if you missed the May 11th Virtual Apprenticeship Session with MLTAI ([Michigan Laborer's Training Apprenticeship Institute](#)), [you can watch it here](#). This is not only for those interested in the construction industry. It can be a great opportunity for anyone undecided on what to do after graduation, who wants to work with their hands and learn an in-demand trade.

DTE is building a Detroit-based [Tree Trimming Academy](#) to provide training for those seeking a career in Line Clearance Tree Trimming. Line Clearance Tree Trimmers clear trees and debris away from electrical lines that power homes, neighborhoods, schools and businesses. DTE and IBEW will need 200 Line Clearance tree Trimmers in the next three years.



[Michigan Apprenticeship Program Plus \(MAP+\)](#) focuses on increasing the number of individuals entering the manufacturing or construction trades. The program is:

- **Free**
- Online for Summer 2021
- Running from June 21 - August 14, 2021
- Nine credits (Approximately 19 hour of class time a week, depending on math skills)

**Outcomes of the MAP+ program have included:**

- Industrial Readiness Certificate (if qualifications are met)
- Employment in manufacturing and construction trades
- More qualified candidates for apprenticeship programs

If you have any graduating seniors or individuals over the age of 18 that have **(a) expressed an interest in the skilled trades or (b) have demonstrated transferable workplace skills and an inclination for working with materials**, please reach out to **Brianne Steele** ([bsteale@msd.net](mailto:bsteale@msd.net)), who is recruiting for the program. Applications due by June 1.

Wayne State University is offering [MIOHSA Roadway Work Zone Safety Awareness Training](#) for free. This training is for anyone preparing for a career in the construction industry, including but not limited to: workers, site superintendents, safety managers, and employers. MIOSHA is part of the Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs (LARA).



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Board of Education: James S. Beri • Mary E. Blackmon  
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Would you like to meet? Need [Career Resources](#)?

*Note: Inclusion of a program in our database does not indicate an endorsement by Wayne RESA. The database is for informational purposes only.*