



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NW Indiana included in second round of education funding from the Indiana General Assembly

The second round of Innovative Career and Technical Training grants from the Indiana General Assembly were awarded to 8 school and business partnership initiatives throughout the state, with Northwest Indiana gaining \$645,734 of those dollars. The grants will help towards programs for high school students that provide new work-based learning opportunities in robotics, agriculture and precision machining.

The following organizations were part of this second round of funding:

South and North Newton School Corporations is offering a new curriculum in agriculture, including Precision Farming with STEM-focused Project Lead The Way courses, Agritourism and an organic food and the farm-to-table concept, and Aquaponics that would include science, business, and marketing components.

Pulaski County Community Foundation will offer an innovative curriculum in manufacturing for Industrial Repair and Maintenance via RAM-Tech, and integrated/aligned to business needs, state-approved standards, and an Amatrol curriculum.

Michigan City School Corporation will provide a new energy pathway announced last fall in partnership with local utility groups and includes Summer Energy Camps for students in grades 1 through 12, internships with IBEW, and new courses for students in their Sophomore through Senior years.

Governor Pence acknowledged the Indiana Regional Works Councils for leading the charge when it comes to ensuring our young people are on a pathway to success in the workforce or in post-secondary studies, while bolstering awareness and opportunities in career and technical education.

These second round of grants, provided by the Indiana General Assembly, are designed to target new learning opportunities at the regional level, with collaborations between local business and education partners and are driven by the regional Works Councils. The grants provide meaningful work-to-learn opportunities in combination with students earning dual credits and industry certifications in key regional employment sectors, and might include agriculture, advanced manufacturing, energy, automotive, construction, precision machining, robotics, and welding. The grants require a 3:1 public to private dollar match in funding and/or services.

For further information about the Works Council of Northwest Indiana contact the Center of Workforce Innovations at 219-462-2940.