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Renovations are beginning

This year we will be beginning a \$12 million renovation project which will enhance the technical education offered at NMTCC.

Some of the renovations include:

Increased security—A new secure lobby will be created to limit access throughout the building.

ADA requirements—Upgrades will be made to the public restrooms and some of the classroom doors to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Mechanicals—The HVAC system and roof will be renovated as needed.

Overcrowding—Select classrooms will be reconfigured to allow for the increased student population.

Expansion—A new 8,400 square foot addition will be added to the side of the building facing Sunnyside Pike. This will be considered the new Main Entrance for the public and will include the following:

- A new security station which will act as the main entry point for any visitors wishing to enter the building.
- A new 50 seat restaurant will be added to serve the public.

- A new 25 seat beauty salon will be added to the addition and will allow the Cosmetology students to provide their services to customers.
- A new service area which will allow visitors to access various services offered by programs in the building including baked goods, floral items and graphic design services.

On March 9th, a pre-bid conference will be held for all contractors to walk through the building so they can accurately bid on the job based in the specifications provided. The bids will be opened on March 19th and awarded during the Joint Operating Committee meeting on March 29th.

These enhancements to the building will provide a state of the art environment for our future leaders and will also provide opportunities for the community to access the services available.

While we will be working through construction disruptions over the next few years, our commitment to educating our students will remain strong.

CULINARY ARTS NEWS

Several Culinary Arts students recently participated in a Valentine's Day Celebration at the Harleysville Senior Center. The students showed their skills and knowledge through a chocolate demonstration. The seniors were then treated to a delicious "chocolate heat dessert" with fresh fruit compote served by NMTCC Culinary Arts students.

Michele Ross, Program Director for Harleysville Senior Center, expressed her genuine apprecia-

tion for the students' participation in this special event and stated how she felt the intergenerational events are "priceless."

NMTCC offers a special thank you to Mr. Cole, Culinary Arts instructor and the students who participated including: Tyler Burkle, Chris Clark, Connor Donaghy and April Straup.

Health/Physical Education Guest Speaker

Recently, over 500 NMTCC students had the opportunity to discuss Dating Abuse and Unhealthy Relationships during the Health/Physical Education classes.

Presenters from Victim Services Center of Montgomery County spoke to students about four types of dating violence including physical, verbal, emotional and sexual. Students received an explanation of the cycle of abuse and used the explanation to analyze a video depiction

of an unhealthy high school student relationship. The presentation provided information on how to help someone in an abusive/unhealthy relationship.

Statistics from the presentation included:

- 1 in 3 high school relationships fall into the unhealthy category

- An abused individual will go through the cycle of abuse an average of 7 times before finally ending the relationship.

Students are encouraged to speak to a parent, teacher, guidance counselor, administrator or trusted adult if they feel they need assistance in dealing with an abusive relationship.

Counseling Corner

The Student Services department has received word of several **Commercial Arts** seniors who received their acceptance letters to various post-secondary schools. Congratulations to the following **Commercial Arts** students:

Peter Alderfer:
Hussian School of Art

Diego Brazzo:
Full Sail University

David Jones:
Hussian School of Art

Steve Leonetti:
Hussian School of Art
Antonelli School of Art & Design

Alex Southard:
Hussian School of Art
Art Institute of Philadelphia
Cabrini College

Alyce Williams:
Pittsburgh Technical Institute

In addition, the Montgomery County Counseling Association recently hosted a guest speaker at NMTCC. Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein spoke to school counselors from around the county regarding how to Counsel Defiant Children. Dr. Bernstein is a child and family psychologist and author of several popular books including, *10 Days to a Less Defiant Child*

A special THANK YOU to our Maintenance Department for all of their hard work and effort in clearing our parking lots and walkways. We experienced much more snow this year than we anticipated so we were thankful when we arrived to work and could turn into our driveway onto a clear parking lot. .

The Administration, Faculty and Staff expresses their sincere appreciation to our Maintenance Department including: Mike Feldman, Joe Borzor, Stan Micsion and Pete Iltis.

Thank you!

FEMALES LEARN MORE ABOUT NON-TRADITIONAL CAREERS

Four NMTCC students had the opportunity to participate in a seminar for women in the engineering and construction fields. This event was sponsored by the Montgomery County Education and Workforce Partnership and the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. The seminar enabled female students in these fields to learn from professionals currently working in the industry. In addition, the students were able to speak to

students who are currently enrolled in architectural, chemical, civil, and mechanical engineering programs at Drexel University, Villanova University and Temple University. The students who attended this seminar included: Brianna Zenon (Welding), Casey Stanley (Welding) and Gretchen DeVarney (Construction Carpentry) along with NMTCC School to Career Coordinator, Mrs. Kachelries.

