

## NWIWB Engages Students with Career and Workplace Expertise

On Tuesday, April 13, Hobart High School focused their school day on educating and preparing students on what it takes to be successful in the workplace with a Career & Workforce Expectations Fair. Several Northwest Indiana Workforce Board members along with a few of the Youth Employment Council members were on hand to inform, inspire, and instill what employers are looking for in a worker.

In their annual plan, the NWIWB identified the importance to engage and educate young people on skills they will need to succeed in the workplace. This part of their plan was at work, as they customized their sessions at the Expectations Fair around several of the 10 traits that employers expect of their employees. The traits they touched on were cited on the poster that is distributed on behalf of NWIWB and the Center of Workforce Innovations. The poster can be found in K-12 classrooms and school hallways across the region.

Don Babcock with NIPSCO kicked off the morning with a high energy welcome and informative presentation on area employers and the skills they are seeking for their in-demand jobs, both current and upcoming. **Joe Medellin**, Manager of HR at ArcelorMittal then provided the senior class with 10 important traits employers seek, as outlined on the Employer Expectation Poster. **Kristine Lukowski**-HR Manager at Republic Services walked students through an application process, what makes for an effective resume, and legal affairs of obtaining a job, e.g., drug or background checks. A session on first impressions and quality workforce habits was presented by **Mike Berta**-retired Superintendent of Valparaiso Schools and **Mike Baird**-retired executive from BMO-Harris Bank. Berta and Baird talked about the importance of honesty and dependability on the job and the need to dress properly and practice good hygiene. **Keith Kirkpatrick**-President of the KPM Group made sure in his session to share how an interview can make or break your chances of getting the job.

Medellin said that he enjoyed engaging the seniors on what their experiences have been in the working world and hopes it was helpful to providing them a better understanding of work world expectations, regardless of the type of work.

Hobart High School's effort on pulling together the important components on helping students succeed was impressive, according to Baird. "The school has done a great job of preparing their students to move into the workforce. I was so impressed and had such a good time; I didn't want to leave them!"

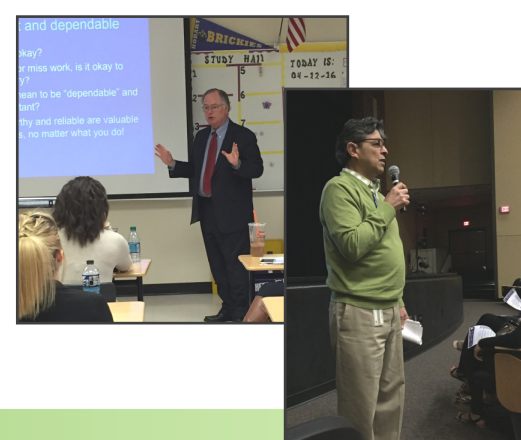
Kudos all around to Hobart's Superintendent Dr. Peggy Buffington and her team for pulling together a well thought out and productive day for the students. Something tells us that this is an event worthy of repeating next year!



### What does an employer expect of me as an employee?

1. Show a positive attitude
2. Work well with others
3. Follow directions
4. Arrive to work on time
5. Recognize problems and find solutions
6. Manage time effectively
7. Apply good listening skills
8. Be honest and dependable
9. Know the need to pass a drug or background check
10. Dress properly and practice good hygiene

Got what it takes?



## 13 Successfully Complete the Certified Production Technician Program



Funding through the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board made it possible for 13 WorkOne clients to complete the Certified Production Technician (CPT) training in March.

The 12-week training program was conducted through Ivy Tech and will contribute to filling skill gaps often existent throughout the local manufacturing industry. WorkOne clients who completed the program will be better prepared to secure an entry level position with a manufacturer. In addition to the CPT certification, the graduates also received their White Belt Certification which trains individuals in quality assurance, problem solving, customer relations, teamwork, and eliminating waste.

All of the graduates were invited to a job informational session with a large Hammond manufacturer, while two graduates gained employment with Albanese Candy Factory and two others were interviewing for an On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunity with a Gary manufacturer.

**If you are an employer with a position open requiring CPT skills and would like to interview one of these newly certified individuals or for further information on employee training opportunities through WorkOne, contact Business Service Manager Allison Bertl at 219-462-2940, ext. 41.**

## NWIWB Represented at Regional SHRM Conference

Linda Woloshansky, President and CEO of the Center of Workforce Innovations (CWI) and staff to the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board (NWIWB), was a presenter at the NW Indiana Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Annual Conference on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The conference took place at the Radisson Hotel in Merrillville and drew over 200 Human Resource professionals from across the region. Woloshansky presented on regional labor market forecasts and trends. For further information about the presentation contact CWI at 219-462-2940.



## WorkOne Partners with La Porte County to Host Community Job Fair

When local organizations work together great things can happen. The **City of Michigan City, Economic Development Corporation Michigan City, Greater La Porte Economic Development**, and the **Northwest Indiana Workforce Board WorkOne offices** are partnering to host a Community Job Fair on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at Blue Chip Casino. The job fair will bring together employers, universities, skilled trades, training providers, and community organizations to highlight job opportunities and career paths for jobseekers. The first hour of the event will be open to veterans only and at 11:00 am the doors will be open to the general public.

Employers and other organizations interested in having a booth at the event should contact **Katie Eaton, 219-462-2940 ext. 38** or email [keaton@gotoworkonenw.com](mailto:keaton@gotoworkonenw.com).

### Community Job Fair!

**Blue Chip Casino—May 11, 2016**

**Veterans Only 10 am—11 am**

**Open to Public 11 am—3 pm**

Sponsored by: