

NEWS RELEASE

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MANUFACTURERS AND EMPLOYERS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES NEPA CAREER ADVANTAGE INITIATIVE

POTTSVILLE, Pa.—The Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Council announces NEPA Career Advantage, a career awareness initiative targeted at high school students.

The program has six components: the YES (Your Employability Skills) Certificate Program, which is currently in its third year in Schuylkill County and first in Luzerne County; assessments to 6 modules of the YES Program, in which the students would be able to apply their knowledge to the Quality and Technology-based YES modules; YES alumni networking; Career Integration, which includes Career Speakers from a range of industries and backgrounds, as well as Career Fairs in the spring; internship opportunities for both high school and college students with area companies, and a Youth Employment Register. As part of the register, students who have earned a certification in a specific field can submit their resumes for distribution through the Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association's Member Journal.

“The purpose of NEPA Career Advantage is to give students as many resources and opportunities for career awareness as possible so that they can make decisions about careers after high school,” explains Sara Hodon, Director of Workforce Development.

“Our initiatives give our future workforce a direct connection with businesses in our community. Our students are able to tour our local businesses and industries and learn more about the many growing fields here in our region,” according to Courtney Whitecavage, Director of Workforce Development.

The Council is the 501(c)(3) nonprofit affiliate of the Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association. According to Council president Darlene J.

Robbins, the Manufacturers and Employers Association has played an active role in career awareness and educational initiatives in the region for many years. “Since our Council’s inception, we have been better able to streamline our workforce development programs and have more of a focus on both our businesses and our youth,” she said.

For more information on the NEPA Career Advantage, please contact Hodon (shodon@nepamaec.com) or Whitecavage (cwhitecavage@nepamaec.com) at 570-622-0940.

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