



Custom Desk (left) that students in Mr. Dawson's Residential Wiring class constructed for Elite Gymnastics.

Residential Wiring can't stay Static

Mr. Matt Dawson prides himself on giving his students an experience that comes as close as possible to simulating the demands of being on the job. Whether it is the full mockups of kitchen islands, or the installation of a garage door, students in the Residential Wiring class are exposed to scenarios that are as close to the real world as you can get.

Taking that philosophy one step further Mr. Dawson has led his students to participate in an actual apprenticeship for a local community business. Partnering with Elite Gymnastics, students in the residential wiring class are putting their content knowledge to the real world test. In addition, the students are also experiencing a cross over with the incorporation of some carpentry to accompany their wiring work.



The culmination of the Residential Wiring use of their electrical and carpentry skills in making a greeters desk for Elite Gymnastics. The desk is over 12 ft long and 6 ft wide.

Through a contact with the company owner, Mr. Dawson was able to secure this opportunity for his wiring students. The students have spent the past two weeks traveling between the old Westclox building and their classroom. In addition to implementing the design preferred by the owner, the students have been responsible for installing and running the electrical components, as well as constructing the framework for the desk (and other projects).

SHAWN SCHWINGLE--CAD DRAFTING INSTRUCTOR

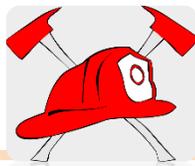


In his 33rd year of teaching, Mr. Shawn Schwingle brings a myriad of experience in the private sector to his CAD Drafting/Engineering classes. Along-side his teaching career, Mr. Schwingle has worked as a carpenter, draftsman, factory worker, and Ag Chemical Rep. These experiences in the real world have helped to infuse a career focused curriculum with much needed guidance as to the choices that are available to students.

One overarching guiding principle that permeates Mr. Schwingle's classroom is work ethic. Instilling a solid perception that work is a gift, and it is the gift that pays off in countless dividends is a primary goal of the CAD Drafting class. Understanding that a poor work ethic will always doom you to the lower rungs of the pay scale and seniority list, is a key life lesson that Mr. Schwingle wants all students to understand. This is essential, as the CAD/Engineering field is a well-paying field that has unlimited growth potential. For the student that hones his/her skills, and adds in a solid work ethic, will write their own ticket in life.

Mr. Schwingle sees the growing market for 3d printers as a sign of how vital his curriculum is. He predicts that in the near future, homes will have 3d printers that will allow them to not only create decorations and designs, but also make replacement parts for items around the house. Knowing how to manipulate the drawings and designs using CAD software will be essential not only for jobs, but also for everyday living.

As an example of the above stated principles and philosophies, Mr. Scwingle incorporates a design project in his classroom that involves his students designing their own pair of sunglasses. When finished the sunglasses are fully functional and a custom fit for the student. Need a part replaced? See the CAD class, they can probably design it.



Fire Science Students practice their skills in the insertion of breathing tubes as part of their EMR training.



Two Fire Science student listen to instructions as they prepare to certify in the use of an AED.

Fire Science Certifies

Students in the Fire Science program were recently tested and certified in CPR procedures and AED use. As a regular part of the curriculum, all students within the class are required to achieve this certification.

Testing was administered and overseen by Mr. Nicholas Fish who is the EMS and Disaster Coordinator at Illinois Valley Community Hospital. He was assisted by Ms. Sue Huss and Ms. Cathie Edens who are Ambulance Administrators for the Tonica and Oglesby Fire Departments, respectively. Both are CPR Instructors.

Students who are enrolled in Fire Science are able to earn these certifications in addition to dual credit from Illinois Valley Community College. Over the course of two days students put their skills to the test in inserting air tubes, applying AED patches, and administering CPR.

Mr. Rick Turri was happy to report that all students earned their certification.

Congratulations Fire Science!

Engine Oil & The Change

If you are like most people, you take great pride in the type of car you drive and how it looks. That is understandable as it is a very significant investment. However, while it is important to keep the car clean (not only for aesthetics) the soul of your car is found in the mechanical parts that allow it to move. For that reason, knowing about those fluids that flow through your engine and its other systems is the single most important piece of basic maintenance that you can perform on your car.

While a modern automobile uses a variety of fluids to perform its functions (engine oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, antifreeze, & power steering fluid) it is the engine oil that needs to be changed most frequently. Recent innovations in types of oil (mainly synthetics) has allowed the very important task of changing the engine oil to be delayed by thousands of miles.

In the past, most people went by the axiom of changing their engine oil every 3000 miles or so. While it wouldn't hurt to do it that often, most newer cars are recommended to run the current synthetic blends of oils. In doing so, many car manufacturers recommend oil changes only at the 7000 to 10,000 mile range. Quite a bit of difference. So while the synthetics are more expensive (at the occurrence), if you combine the cost with the frequency of need, in many cases it turns out to be cheaper to run the synthetic oil instead of the traditional. Either way, follow the guides to change the oil at the appropriate time.

[Click Here to Learn About ACC Students of the Month: Jace Hardy\(Middle\) & Alec Kessel \(Left\)](#)



Alec Kessel & Jace Hardy pictured with Instructor Mr. Shawn Schwingle

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