

## **NEWS RELEASE /** May 7, 2026

### **Industry Signing Day connects high school students with future careers**

*Wauwatosa, WI* – Thirty-nine Wauwatosa high school students will be recognized during the 6th annual Industry Signing Day on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 3-4:30 p.m. at the Wauwatosa East High School woodshop, 7500 Milwaukee Ave.

Industry Signing Day is a celebrated event where students formally commit to entering various industries after graduation, much like athletes do with colleges. This event highlights students who have chosen to pursue careers in skilled trades, technical fields, or other industry sectors and celebrates their decision to enter the workforce and contributes to changing perceptions about the value of vocational and technical education.

“This event is about celebrating students who are taking the first step in their careers. The coursework and programming we offer have led the students to be qualified to start a Registered Apprenticeship in any of the skilled building trades,” Technology Education teacher Craig Griffie said.

The Industry Advisory program includes students from both Wauwatosa East High School and Wauwatosa West High School. It is recognized as a Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Certified Pre-Apprenticeship program. It has an attendance-based participation policy that students in the Construction Capstone program can voluntarily participate in.

The event will celebrate the following students who have completed Wauwatosa School District’s Industry Advisory:

- Colin Anhalt, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Common Links Construction
- Nathan Balistriere, Wauwatosa West High School junior - Total Mechanical
- Joseph Bartleme, Wauwatosa West High School senior - Mortenson Construction
- Deanna Bellini, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Total Mechanical
- Carter Block, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Hetzel Sanfilippo Inc
- Rummel Cannon Jr, Wauwatosa West High School senior - Miron Construction
- Miguel Carrillo-Leyva, Wauwatosa West High School senior - Total Mechanical
- Riley Cobb, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Miron
- D’Anthony Codere, Wauwatosa East High School junior - Mortenson Construction
- Bennett Collum, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Mortenson Construction
- Noah Dinsmore-Shaefer, Wauwatosa West High School senior - PCI
- Jack Donohoo, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Mortenson Construction
- Roman Draheim, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Zignego
- Chris Drapier, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Mortenson Construction

- Lance DuPree, Wauwatosa East High School senior - JH Findorff
- Liam Ferguson, Wauwatosa East High School junior - Mortenson Construction
- Declan Freeborn, Wauwatosa West High School senior - PCI
- Aidem Harmon, Wauwatosa West High School senior - JH Findorff
- Nathaniel Hayes, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Common Links Construction
- Henry Heffner, Wauwatosa East High School junior - JP Cullen
- Alexander Kotas, Wauwatosa East High School senior - JP Cullen
- Palmer Krieghoff, Wauwatosa West High School senior - Gurtz Electric
- Charles Laritson, Wauwatosa East High School junior - Staff Electric
- Aiden Maas, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Lemberg Electric
- Marek Malinowski, Wauwatosa West High School senior - Staff Electric
- Fallyn Moye, Wauwatosa East High School senior - KG Stevens
- Henry Nielsen, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Wellenstein & Sons
- Liam O'Rear, Wauwatosa West High School senior - Boldt
- Jason Onopa, Wauwatosa West High School junior
- Joseph Pantuso, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Miron
- Evan Penegor, Wauwatosa East High School senior - MidCity Plumbing
- Cole Schmidt, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Gurtz Electric
- Nathan Schwartz, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Westphal Electric
- Lucas Spadanuda, Wauwatosa East High School senior
- Khalil Taylor, Wauwatosa West High School senior - JM Brennan
- Hanie Tiru, Wauwatosa East High School senior - CG Schmidt
- Stevin Tunstall, Wauwatosa West High School senior - JH Findorff
- Sadie Weske, Wauwatosa East High School senior - Lippert Tile
- Braeden Young, Wauwatosa West High School senior - JM Brennan

Representatives from the following industries/companies will be in attendance:

- Mortenson Construction
- CG Schmidt
- JP Cullen
- Miron
- JH Findorff
- PCI
- Common Links Construction
- Hetzel Sanfilippo Inc
- Westphal Electric
- JM Brennan
- Boldt Construction
- MidCity Plumbing
- Wellenstein & Sons Construction
- AGI Fabricators
- Total Mechanical
- Gurtz Electric
- STAFF Electric
- Zignego

- North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
- Plumbing Mechanical Sheet Metal Contractors Association
- NARI Milwaukee Foundation
- Milwaukee Tool
- ABC WI
- Building Advantage

Participating in registered apprenticeships allows graduates and current high school students to earn money while gaining valuable skills in their chosen industries. The duration of an apprenticeship varies by trade, involving both coursework and hands-on training.

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