

School work

By: April Lawyer
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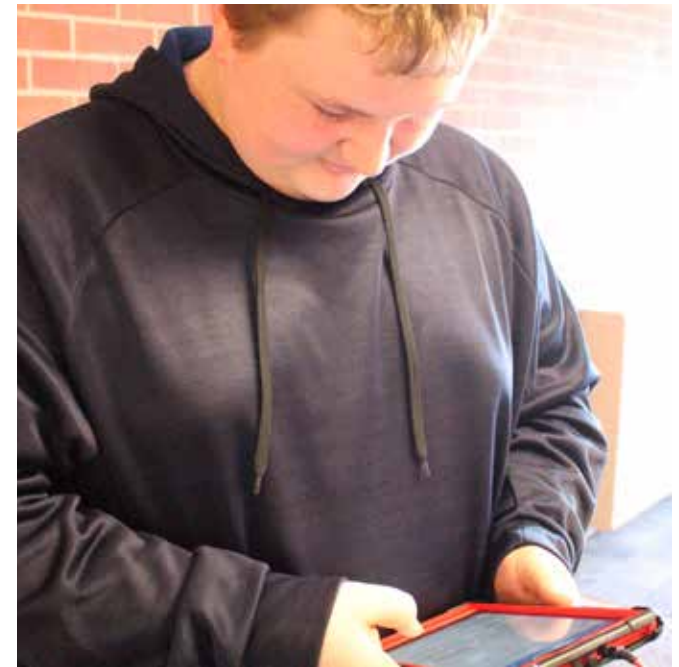
Students have many opportunities to expand their horizons and figure out what they want to do in the future. They can take AP classes for a look into what college will be like, Kirkwood classes for much more advanced material, or just talk to a school counselor regarding the questions they have. However, there is one more opportunity for them to take, one that puts them directly into the workplace long enough for them to gauge what that life will be like. From veterinarian work to theatre, you're likely to find a job shadow to explore your career interests with.

Grace Richards, sophomore,

took a job shadow at Theatre Cedar Rapids and deeply enjoyed it, "It was very interesting and I learned a lot. We got to get just a good, broad view of the whole place." It also gave her a new perspective about this specific career path, and allowed her to measure her interest in it. "I wanted to go into theatre but I never knew how many steps there were to make a production. So it kind of persuaded me not to go into that." Many job shadows, like Grace's, take place over the span of a day or afternoon, and include going to off school locations in the Marion-Cedar Rapids area. In this way, students can get out of their comfort zones, and experience a professional and non-academic environment.

The job shadow that Nathan Payton, junior, had took place over a variety of loca-

tions around Marion and Cedar Rapids. "We went to a bunch of work sites to see what different jobs were." He took part in the skilled trades day job shadow, which taught about several careers rather than focusing solely on one. "I recommend for anyone trying to do construction to take the job shadow, to see what the work entails," said Payton. For students thinking of attending job shadows this year or the next, they should contact Mrs. Grant and/or Mr. Kettman in the counseling office, or talk to their mentor teacher about possible job shadow opportunities. There are job shadows for nearly every career path, so you'll be sure to find one you like. A day of experience can influence a choice that impacts a lifetime, and could lead you down the path to success.



Nathan Payton, junior, browses available job shadow options on Kirkwood's website.

Back to school

By: Antonio Cayler @antoniocaylerr



Ms. Tesar educates the students on what it takes to be a teacher.

After 12 years of schooling, once someone graduates, they most likely won't want to come back. For the ones who decide to go into an education career, that is very untrue. Imagine taking a student, someone who is learning and adapting to a new environment, and combining that with a teacher,

someone who is educating and shaping kids. That is what a student teacher is. According to David Reisner, junior, student teachers are very beneficial. "Student teachers help create a friendly environment, but also make the students work more because they aren't used to the way they teach, so they don't want to give them the wrong impression." Reisner also explained that he has always had good encounters with them. Some might say that student teachers are useless or non-beneficial, and maybe they are right. Normally it is easier to learn and get things done when you are in a comfortable environment. Having a new teacher in the room could spark anxiety, or possibly make students not take it seriously. "Sometimes it's hard to have a

student teacher because they don't teach the way we are used to, so it can be hard to adapt or figure

out what's going on" said Reisner, junior. From the other perspective, Mr. Voss's student teacher, Ms. Tesar, "Being able to practice teaching before you go into professionally is really helpful." With the chance to be at school as a teacher in training, Ms. Tesar can get used to the students, interact well with the other teachers, and get used to the high-school environment overall. Being a student teacher, Tesar has to figure out what it takes to become a certified teacher, for her future. Even if there are some who are for student teachers or some who are against them, student teachers are a key factor in paving the way for future education.

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