

# Greater Lowell Tech hosts eighth grade open house

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TYNGSBORO — Greater Lowell Technical High School recently held an eighth grade open house, showcasing the school's 23 technical programs to prospective students.

Eighth graders and their parents/guardians from the school's four sending communities — Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell and Tyngsboro — were invited to tour the campus and facilities on Jan. 5 to learn more about the programs offered.

Greater Lowell Tech staff and students highlighted their 23 technical programs, career pathways and academic programming, including Advanced Placement and dual enrollment courses; athletics; extracurricular activities/clubs; and the school's core values of Respect, Effort, Accountability, Commitment and Honesty (REACH). Admissions specialists also were available to assist those who wished to register on-site.

Jimmy Heng, of Lowell, brought his sister, Livia, to the open house to learn more about Greater Lowell Tech's offerings.

"She's very interested in painting, but we also wanted to see the other programs and learn more," he said.

In carpentry, Cooper Frye, a senior from Tyngsboro, helped attendees build a cellphone holder out of wood.



“I’m showing how great carpentry can be,” Frye said. “It’s useful, something you can do for the rest of your life even if it isn’t your career.”

In other shop areas, students led hands-on demonstrations. In the culinary arts program, students prepared samples of grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup at The Artisan restaurant. Students in vocational technical programs also participated in a Community Outreach Open House Challenge. Judges, including students, faculty and alumni, visited each shop area, grading students on professionalism, articulation and leadership skills. Judges also considered students’ understanding of safety and proper techniques and the appeal and interactivity of the displays.

The painting and design technology program won the grand prize of a \$250 shop award. Information technology services was awarded second place, a \$150 shop award. The marketing education program was awarded third place, a \$75 shop award. Student representatives, with approval of their instructor, will decide how the awards will be used.

“We always are proud to share the benefits and experiences of a vocational technical education, and the skills and expertise of our Greater Lowell Tech students and staff. It is exciting to see prospective students learn more about the school, and discover a new interest or career path,” Superintendent Jill Davis said. “Thank you to our students, staff and alumni, all of whom ensured that open house was a huge success. Our Gryphon pride was truly visible!”

