



GSD Celebrates Prestigious Recognitions



Superintendent's Message

Dr. David Daigneault

In February 2025, the Grenada School District proudly received two significant recognitions, further solidifying its reputation as a leader in education in Mississippi. While these accolades are a testament to the district's consistent dedication to excellence, it is important to remember that such achievements are the result of years of hard work, collaboration, and commitment from every corner of our school community. We take pride in our continued success, yet remain humble, as these recognitions are not to be taken for granted.

Mississippi School Boards Association Lighthouse School Leader Beacon Award

One of the district's most recent honors is the Mississippi School Boards Association (MSBA) Lighthouse School Leader Beacon Award. This prestigious award recognizes school districts that meet a rigorous set of criteria: an "A" rated district, all schools rated "C" or higher, and the district must be in good standing according to the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Office of Accreditation.

This year, Grenada School District received formal recognition at the MSBA Annual Conference Lighthouse Luncheon, held at The Refuge Hotel and Conference Center in Flowood, Mississippi.

As an "A" rated district, this award highlights the continued academic excellence and commitment to student achievement at every level. It serves as a reminder of the collective efforts of our educators, administrative staff, and the community in achieving this outstanding level of performance.

State Auditor's Recognition for Financial Excellence

In addition to academic accolades, the Grenada School District also earned a noteworthy recognition from the Office of the State Auditor, Shad White. The district's annual financial report was reviewed, and the conclusion was clear: the opinions issued were "unmodified" and "no findings reported."

See "Recognitions" Continued on page 2

GHS Groups Build "Little Free Library"



Photos by Tammie Cavanaugh



(Photo left) Anne Adams (front) and Kate Cobb (back) work with other students to get the free library painted. (Photo right) Calen Gable and Michael Cavanaugh install and stock the "Little Free Library" for the community."

By Tammie Cavanaugh
GSD Contributor

Little Free Libraries have been popping up in communities around the country since 2009 when Todd Bol of Hudson, Wisconsin, built a model of a one room schoolhouse as tribute to his mother, a former teacher who loved to read, placed it on his front lawn and filled it with books. His neighbors and friends loved it so much that he built several more and gave them away. By 2010, the name "Little Free Library" was established. Rick Brooks with the University of Wisconsin-Madison saw Bol's project and together they set a goal to build 2,508 Little Free Libraries by the end of 2013. They wound

up exceeding that goal in August of 2012, a year and a half before their target date. More than 150,000 little free libraries have been installed worldwide, and the number continues to grow. Today people recognize these little boxes as a place to share good books and bring communities together.

Inspired by Todd Bol's legacy, two GHS groups independently decided to build a library for one of their service projects and place it somewhere in the community. A National Honor Society group led by Michael Cavanaugh constructed and painted their library, and with permission from city officials, placed the little library in a grassy area next to the parking lot of the Grenada County Office

Building at 1240 Fairground Road. The little library is currently filled with books and ready for the community to use.

In addition, Ms. Michelle Downs' Teacher Education Prep students are designing and building a little library to place at the Parks and Recreation area in April. Once placed, another library will be filled with books ready for the community to share. The students hope the nearby community will see these Little Free Libraries and embrace the motto "Take One, Leave One" for years to come.

For more information on the history and organization of "Little Free Library," visit <https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/history/>.

AmeriCorps Hosts Valentine Project

By Pamela Hubbard
Assistant AmeriCorps Director

The Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program has established an annual Valentine's Reading Program at the Elizabeth Jones Library. This has become a popular, fun event on a day students are dismissed from school for a professional development day. AmeriCorps members read stories on relationships, love and ideas about the holiday. After the entertaining stories, students made Valentine cards for their parents and friends. There was a lot of love and joy evident at the library that day. The event was sponsored by the library, AmeriCorps, and Dollar General who provided candy and heart crafts for the cards. The Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program is possible through a federal grant administered through the Grenada School District, AmeriCorps National Office and Volunteer Mississippi in Jackson.



AmeriCorps members (back, l to r) Edis Booker, Lorella Monger, Doris Brown, Charry Brown, Samantha Coker, Cheryl Grantham-Pomerlee, (front, l to r) Assistant Program Director Pamela Hubbard, April Poe, Ebony Williamson, Kimberly Myers, Zamiya Davis, and Miranda Miller at the annual AmeriCorps Valentine's Reading Program held at the Elizabeth Jones Library.

GMS Hosts a Unique Literacy Night



(left, front to back) Bradley and Frankie Holliday, John Luke and Nancy Rose, enjoy the music portion of GMS Literacy event with (right, front to back) Jerry Williams and Shelly Collins.

By Ben Leatherman
GSD Reporter

Students of Grenada Middle School gathered for an innovative and engaging event known as “Literacy and Lyrics,” an initiative designed to connect music and literacy. Spearheaded by Lindsey Leggett, Assistant Principal, the event aimed to make learning fun through the union of music and lyrics.

The evening featured a series of interactive classroom sessions, each dedicated to a particular music genre. The Rock and Roll Room saw students delving into the lyrics of Elvis Presley’s “Hound Dog,” with a surprise appearance by Will Blaylock performing as an Elvis impersonator. The Pop Room enticed students with the lyrics of Taylor Swift, exploring figurative language with the help of Visions volunteers role-playing as the pop icon.

In the Blues Classroom, students enjoyed live music from teacher C.J.

Barnes while creating their own blues-themed lyrics using artificial intelligence. Meanwhile, the Country Music Room offered a narrative exercise inspired by Dolly Parton’s “Coat of Many Colors,” supported by musical contributions from local talents Jerry Williams, Josh Revelle, and others from the Green Street Band.

“The goal is to show students how lyrics and storytelling are intertwined,” Mrs. Leggett explained. “It’s an exciting approach to make literacy engaging and enjoyable for our students.”

The event was a collaborative effort, with contributions from the school board, administrative team, teachers, and community partners. “We are grateful to all who supported us, making this event a memorable one for our sixth, seventh, and eighth graders,” said Mrs. Leggett. The night not only promoted literacy but also demonstrated the power of community in educational endeavors.

“Recognitions”

Continued from page 1

This stellar financial standing is a reflection of the dedication of our business office staff, the careful oversight of our individual school administrators, and the support of our school board. While we continually strive for this excellence, it is important to emphasize the consistent diligence required to maintain such high standards of financial integrity year after year. As always, we do not take this success lightly. This recognition is a reflection of the ongoing hard work, accountability, and transparency within our district, ensuring that every dollar is spent wisely to benefit our students and the community at large.

A District Built on Dedication and Support

The Grenada School District’s continued success is not accidental. It is the result of tireless effort from every individual involved in the education of our students. From our dedicated teachers, teacher assistants, and support staff, to the hard work of our school board members and the unwavering support from parents and the wider community, these achievements are a testament to the power of collaboration.

We are fortunate to have a district that consistently sets high standards, one that never becomes complacent despite repeated successes. While these recent awards and recognitions are exceptional, we acknowledge that they represent the

culmination of years of effort from our entire community. We remain committed to building on this success, never taking it for granted and always striving to improve.

Looking Forward

The recent recognitions received by the Grenada School District are certainly cause for celebration, but they also serve as a reminder of the ongoing commitment required to maintain such high standards. Our students, staff, and community have proven time and again that we can accomplish great things together, and these recent honors are just a glimpse of what is possible when we remain focused on excellence.

We look forward to continuing this journey of success and are incredibly proud of what we’ve achieved together. The future of the Grenada School District is bright, and we remain committed to ensuring that every student, every educator, and every member of our community has the resources and support they need to thrive.

In closing, we thank our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and the entire community for their continued investment in our district’s success. Together, we will keep reaching new heights, not only in academic achievement but in fostering a safe, supportive, and thriving educational environment for all.

GCTC Students Compete in Educators Rising



Caydence Jennings (left) and Mary Ashton Surrell (right) competed in the Educators Rising State Competition with Educator Prep, taught by Ms. Michelle Downs. Caydence placed 6th in Virtual Bulletin Boards while Mary Ashton earned 2nd place in Job Interview. Mary Ashton will advance to Nationals in Orlando in June.

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GES 3-5 Participants Solve a Math Mystery

By Ben Leatherman
GSD Reporter

Grenada Elementary School 3-5 hosted its fourth annual Family Math Night in February, captivating the students and their families with a unique CLUE-themed event. The evening was a blend of mathematics, mystery, and community involvement, designed to make learning an exciting adventure.

Erica Conley, the school's lead math teacher, along with Alexis Gibson, 4th grade math teacher, spearheaded this year's event with the theme "Mystery at the Mansion." "Our students and their parents became detectives for the night, solving math problems to unravel the mystery of our missing principal, Mrs. Lott," Mrs. Conley explained. "They worked together to decipher clues and eliminate suspects, all while engaging in fun, educational activities."

Several local community leaders volunteered to play the iconic roles from the board game CLUE, including characters like Doctor Orchid, Colonel Mustard, and Mr. Green. As each math problem was solved, families received clues that helped them eliminate these

characters as suspects. By the night's end, only two suspects remained, and students and parents gathered in the gymnasium to make their final guesses.

"Events like these highlight the importance of community involvement in education," said Kasey Lott, the principal of Grenada Elementary. "Our volunteers from Grenada bring a sense of familiarity for the kids and help teach them that learning happens both inside and outside the classroom."

In addition to being a fun-filled evening, Math Night fostered a deeper connection between the school, parents, and local businesses. The Grenada community stepped up to make the evening's event a success.

We especially thank our cast of characters:

Col. Mustard - Tanner Jackson of **Guaranty Bank**; Mr. Green - William Gibson of **Horne**; Prof. Plum - Matt Surrell of **Holmes Community College**; Ms. Peacock - Perrin Jackson of **Landmark Realty**; Mrs. Scarlett - Kim Hawkings of **Snap Fitness**; Dr. Orchid - Arlene Conley- White of **Grenada School Board**

"This is more than just a night



It was a night of mystery at Grenada Elementary 3-5 with a cast of characters from the community. (l to r) Kim Hawkings, William Gibson, Perrin Jackson, and Tanner Jackson. (not pictured: Matt Surrell and Arlene Conley-White)

of math; it's a night that brings our entire community together," said Mrs. Gibson. "We are grateful to everyone who made tonight possible through their hard work and dedication."

Math Night not only challenged the students' problem-solving skills but also showcased the collaborative spirit of

Grenada, proving once again that when the community comes together, learning becomes a thrilling journey.

The evening concluded with Miss Lott's reappearance, revealing that XXXXXX had known of her whereabouts all along, much to the delight and cheers of the students and

families present. The event was hailed as another successful chapter in Grenada Elementary's efforts to make learning a communal and enjoyable experience.

Visit the school online at www.greentop.grenadak12.com to watch the video and catch the culprit red handed.

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Students Gain Hands-On Insight into Advanced Manufacturing at ADP



Attending the tour were Advanced Manufacturing students (l to r) Ryan Williams, Dajuan Loston, Kylar Gibson, Fisher Jackson, ADP Director of Plant Operations Duncan Dees, Innovation Mentor Kyle Doolittle, and ADP Human Resources representative Angela Blissett.

By Sherry Worsham
GSD Programs Director

Students enrolled in the Grenada School District-Holmes Community College Advanced Manufacturing program recently toured the Advanced Distributor Products (ADP) manufacturing plant in Grenada, MS. Students enjoyed an in-depth look at modern manufacturing processes and the career opportunities available in the industry.

Led by ADP host Angela

Blissett (ADP Human Resources) students observed demonstrations of the training new employees undergo before working on the plant floor. They also learned about ADP's copper and aluminum tubing process, which is essential in the production of evaporator coils used in HVAC systems. A highlight of the tour was an inside look at lean manufacturing processes and how they ensure quality, efficiency, and safety in every step of production.

"The opportunity for our students to see the positive outcomes of the training that they are experiencing, as well as the value skilled employees bring to our community is invaluable. Getting to be involved in this learning process is not only beneficial to me and these students, but also industry in Grenada as a whole," said Kyle Doolittle, GSD Innovation Mentor and History Teacher.

Students, all of whom previously completed the welding

and brazing program at the Grenada Career Tech Center, gained a greater appreciation for the range of skills embedded in advanced manufacturing, including forklift operation, welding, brazing, resource management, PLCs, recycling, and workplace safety. Building on their foundational skills, they were able to see firsthand how these technical abilities are applied in a real-world manufacturing environment. Throughout the visit, ADP employees shared

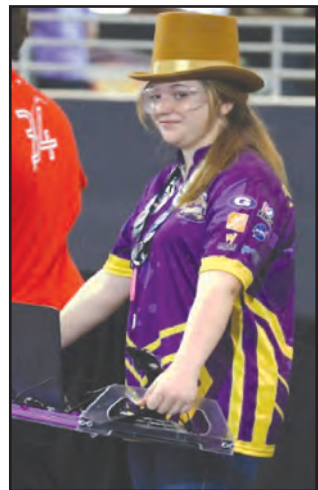
their experiences and provided valuable insights into career paths within the company, reinforcing the connection between their training and future job opportunities.

Plant Manager Duncan Dees joined the group to answer questions and encourage students to consider the expanding career opportunities in advanced manufacturing.

"We want students to see that advanced manufacturing offers more than just jobs—it offers long-term, progressive career opportunities," said Dees. "There are pathways here in Grenada that can lead to great futures in manufacturing, engineering, and beyond."

This experience helped students connect classroom learning to real-world industry applications, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions about careers, training, and college pathways. As the Advanced Manufacturing program continues to grow, opportunities like this will remain vital in preparing students for the workforce of the future.

Robotics Team Competes for Ninth Season



(Photos left and center) Madeleine Stuvee received Dean's List Nomination for the State of Mississippi and will represent Grenada at the World Championship. (Photo right) The Pure Imagination team (l to r) Madeleine Stuvee, Keri Harris, Mikey Kerr, Jessie Williams, Darrious Ray, Layla Escobedo, Nolan Hollingsworth, Molly Melton, and Kimber Crosby, will compete in an international competition in Chicago, Illinois this summer.

By Ryan Melton
Robotics Instructor

Pure Imagination, a dynamic robotics team composed of middle and high school students, has recently completed its 9th successful season. This remarkable group competes in three world-renowned divisions: FIRST Lego League (FLL), FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC), and the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). These competitions are held globally, and the students in this district consistently excel, showcasing their passion and expertise.

The team is composed of students ranging from 7th to 12th grade, with a diverse group of 8 females and 2 males. Each competition the team participates in is fast-paced, lasting only 2:30 minutes, yet it involves multiple rounds. During each round, the team's robot must complete various tasks, including auton-

omous actions and actions controlled by the students. The students work together with other robots to accomplish missions and score as many points as possible.

FIRST competitions are about more than just building robots. The students not only construct and program robots but also engage in fundraising, research, and documentation of their engineering process. They are responsible for finding mentors to help them solve the challenges posed each season. What makes FIRST particularly unique is that the challenge changes every year, requiring the teams to adapt, learn new skills, and modify their strategies accordingly.

This year, Pure Imagination has significantly expanded its outreach efforts. The team participated in various events within their school district, The University of Mississippi, and even at the Columbus Air Show. Over the past year, they've successfully connected with

more than 100,000 individuals, helping build interest in FIRST, robotics, and STEM education.

Throughout their journey, the team has demonstrated consistent success. Both the FLL and FTC teams have qualified for the state championship every season they've competed. The FRC team has also shown remarkable success, competing in various events across the Southeast and winning numerous awards. The FLL team earned the Robot Performance Award and the Core Values Award at their qualifier, while the FTC team brought home the Innovate Award, the Think Award, and the Winning Alliance Award. At the state championship, they clinched the Think Award once again. The FRC team received the Imagery Award at their first event and will compete in their second event this coming April.

In addition to the team's successes,

Madeleine Stuvee received the prestigious Dean's List Nomination for the state of Mississippi, and she will represent Grenada at the World Championship in Houston, Texas. Furthermore, the team has received an invitation to compete at an international competition in Chicago, Illinois, this summer.

Pure Imagination is constantly seeking sponsors, mentors, and new outreach opportunities. If you are interested in supporting this hardworking group of students or would like them to speak at an event, please reach out to pureimagination11279@gmail.com.

This talented group of students is not only mastering the art of robotics but also inspiring others to embrace STEM education, one competition at a time.

Carpentry Students Receive Certification



First year Carpentry students (top photo, l to r) Karson Walker, James Self, Klayton Roberts, Madison Ivy, Christian Clay, Marie Farmer, Semaj Brown, (bottom photo, l to r) Shumar Campbell and Ava Revell received their NC-CER Core Certification. Certification in NCCER Core prepares individuals for entry-level positions on project sites by providing the basics in safety, hand and power tools, construction math, materials handling, construction drawings, rigging and employability skills.



Photos by Meg Newcomb



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One Skill at a Time: Local Skill-Based Careers



By Sherry Worsham

Director of Community Partnerships

As industries evolve and new technologies emerge, the skills needed for tomorrow's workforce are transforming rapidly. For students at Grenada School District, understanding these future-focused skills can provide a competitive edge and prepare them for careers in fields that are just beginning to take shape.

One of the most sought-after skill areas for the future is robotics and automation. As more industries integrate robotics to enhance efficiency, knowledge of programming, controlling

automated systems, and managing robotics in production settings will be highly valued. Grenada High School is at the forefront of this shift, offering students courses in engineering and computer science that cover robotics basics and coding. These classes equip students with the fundamentals needed to operate and troubleshoot automated systems—a skill in high demand across all advanced manufacturing sectors, from companies like Milwaukee Tool, Novipax, Modine, and ADP to potential future employers in robotics-heavy industries.

Cybersecurity and data protection are also rapidly growing fields, essential in

a digital world where data breaches are frequent. Students who develop skills in network management, data security, and troubleshooting hardware gain a foundation in cybersecurity that can apply across various industries. Grenada High School's Cybersecurity program introduces students to IT pathways and teaches them to protect sensitive data, a skill that is indispensable to every modern company, from healthcare facilities to manufacturing plants that rely on secure data transfer and storage.

In the field of advanced manufacturing, knowledge of sustainable practices and environmentally friendly production methods is becoming increasingly critical. As regional industries consider their environmental impact, students with training in green technology and sustainable practices are well-prepared for careers in companies that prioritize eco-friendly solutions. Grenada High School is gradually integrating sustainability concepts into its Career Technology curriculum, ensuring students understand the importance of resource efficiency and environmentally responsible manufacturing.

Another future-oriented skill is AI and

machine learning literacy. With artificial intelligence influencing areas like healthcare diagnostics, manufacturing quality control, and automated customer service, understanding the basics of AI and its applications gives students a head start. GSD's STEM programs introduce students to data analysis and algorithmic thinking, foundational for understanding AI and data-driven decision-making.

Finally, adaptability and continuous learning are essential skills in a rapidly changing world. GSD's project-based learning and flexible curriculum from PreK to 12th grade foster these qualities, encouraging students to learn independently, adapt to new challenges, and embrace lifelong learning. These soft skills—alongside technical proficiencies—help students remain agile and prepared for emerging roles and industries.

By developing these future-focused skills, students gain both technical and adaptable capabilities that will position them competitively in tomorrow's job market. With a commitment to building these skills, GSD ensures students are ready not only for today's jobs but also for the career opportunities that lie ahead in an increasingly dynamic world.

Grenada NJROTC Excels Across Diverse Competitions



(front, l to r) Melissa Varnell, Jada Sanchez, (back, center) Shakitda Clay, and (back, right) Mikayla Clifton, assemble for drill practice. Drill teams include routines in unarmed exhibition, armed exhibition, and color guard.

By Chief Foreman

NJROTC Instructor

Grenada High School's NJROTC continues to showcase excellence across a variety of disciplines, reflecting the dedication and skill of our cadets. Our unit remains committed to excellence across all endeavors by fostering growth, discipline, and camaraderie among our cadets. Cadets have the opportunity to participate in multiple competitions, with an emphasis on STEM education. These competition teams travel across the country throughout the year.

Cyber Patriot Team

Cyber Patriot competitions test student's cybersecurity knowledge with competitions to secure a cyber network. For the third consecutive year, our Cyber Patriot Team has won the state championship. This year three seniors participated: Summer Boatman, Bryson Flowers, and Aaron Handly. All three have been integral in the state championship trifecta. Their commitment extended beyond the academic year as they attended cyber camps at Southern Miss over the last

two summers. They are prepared for the future. One member plans to pursue an engineering degree at Mississippi State University, and the other two aim for military careers in the nuclear field.

Air Rifle Team

NJROTC cadets also have the opportunity to participate in marksmanship competitions. Air rifle teams shoot at a distance of 10 meters (approximately 33 feet) in three different shooting positions: prone, kneeling, and standing. This year's team is led by Tara Bailey. Recently, they competed in the Area 13 Air Rifle Championship and are preparing for the upcoming state championship. Safety is one of the key aspects of marksmanship, and participation requires cadets to pass a 25-question safety test and sign a safety pledge, ensuring the highest standards of responsibility and discipline.

Drill Teams

Inspired by military ceremony, our Drill Teams include routines in Unarmed Basic, Armed Basic, Unarmed Exhibition, Armed Exhibition, and Color Guard. The next event is the Lafayette Drill Meet in

Oxford, MS, on April 5, 2025. This will be the first drill competition of the year for several of our cadets. Points are also awarded for uniform inspections and evaluative questions that test their precision and composure.

Physical Fitness Team

Physical fitness, or PT, is core to all military activities. The Physical Fitness Team has a series of competitions lined up set to challenge our cadets' endurance, strength, and teamwork on both state and national stages.

- **JROTC State Physical Fitness Championship: April 12, 2025, at Germantown High School in Madison, MS.**
- **Horn Lake Physical Fitness Competition: April 26, 2025, at Sardis Lake, MS.**
- **National Physical Fitness Championship: May 3, 2025, in Daytona Beach, FL.**

SeaPerch Teams

When you think about NJROTC, you should think about STEM innovation. The SeaPerch program involves designing, building, and operating an underwater robot called a ROV (remote operated vehicle). Our SeaPerch Teams are gearing up for the underwater robotics competition in Louisiana on March 29, 2025. The challenge involves navigating the ROV through an obstacle course with specialized tasks in a pool. Teams will

also participate in interviews to discuss their robotic designs and strategies. Grenada has both high school and middle school teams competing. Winners of this competition will advance to the championship in Maryland.

First Robotics Team

First Robotics gives students the opportunity to work together and create to solve a common problem. Each year a theme with an arena, obstacles, and tasks is revealed. Teams then design and build a robot to meet these specifications and overcome the challenge. This year, our First Robotics Team participated in two competitions, drawing inspiration from senior cadets and demonstrating remarkable performance with their robot. The team's progress signifies continuous improvement and sets a high standard for future participants.

Academic Team

Our Academic Team recently traveled to Mountain Home, AR, to compete in the Area 13 Brain Brawl Championship. Brain Brawl is similar to "Jeopardy," requiring cadets to quickly buzz in and answer questions. Scores are adjusted based on accuracy. Each team consists of four cadets, ranging from first-year to fourth-year participants. Winners here secure a spot in the national championship in Washington, D.C.

grenadak12.com



Grenada School District

Flowers Completes Three Rivers Paid Intern Program



Milwaukee Talent Representative Britney Branch, (left) and Milwaukee Talent Manager Joey Bowen (right) with GHS Career Coach Tiffany Reed, and GHS Senior Bryson Flowers. Flowers made history as the first paid intern in the Advanced Manufacturing and STEM career sector at Milwaukee Tool.

by *Tiffany Reed*
GHS Career Coach

The third year of the AccelerateMs/ Three Rivers EPIC WEX paid internship program is in full swing, providing a valuable opportunity for Grenada High School seniors. Currently, the program is exclusively available to seniors, who begin their journey by completing a survey to express their career interests and future aspirations. In order to qualify for the internship, students must meet certain criteria, such as maintaining good attendance, avoiding disciplinary referrals, refraining from holding another job, and participating in a one-on-one session with a Career Coach. Additionally, students must fulfill specific requirements set by the Host Worksite Agency.

Last year, the internship program was met with great success, earning popularity both among students and within the local industry. With the program continuing to grow, this year the focus has shifted toward workforce development in key sectors such as Advanced Manufacturing, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), and Healthcare. These fields are thriving and offer students opportunities for long-term career growth.

As the new year began, the program welcomed new opportunities for students to engage with leading industries. In January, Milwaukee Tool opened its doors to a group of 18-year-old student interns, providing hands-on experience in the manufacturing and STEM sectors. Among these students was Bryson Flowers, a senior at Grenada High School, who made history as the first paid intern in the Advanced Manufacturing and STEM career sector at Milwaukee Tool.

Bryson Flowers' experience as a paid intern at Milwaukee Tool has been transformative. After completing his internship, Bryson was awarded a full scholarship to Base Camp Coding Academy, where he plans to pursue a career in coding, program engineering, or software design. Reflecting on his time at Milwaukee Tool, Bryson shared his thoughts on the experience. "I think I entered it with the idea of knowing what

Advanced Manufacturing was, but I now know that there is so much more to it. It's not just about reading schematics. Milwaukee has engineers on every level. Everyone, and I do mean everyone was willing to show me different aspects of the business."

It was this exposure to engineers at every level of the organization that made the biggest impression on his experience. He was able to gain a comprehensive understanding of the industry and learn from professionals who were eager to share their knowledge and experiences. Bryson also emphasized the personal investment made by his worksite supervisors and plant managers. The team at Milwaukee Tool went above and beyond to mentor him, showing him different aspects of the business.

Bryson's journey is a testament to the invaluable opportunities the AccelerateMs/ Three Rivers EPIC WEX paid internship program provides. The program not only equips students with the technical skills needed for high-demand industries, but it also fosters strong relationships between students and professionals, helping to bridge the gap between education and the workforce.

For Bryson, the internship has been a crucial stepping stone toward his future career. He is grateful for the experiences he gained at Milwaukee Tool and is excited to continue his education at Base Camp Coding Academy. With the program's focus on sectors like Advanced Manufacturing, STEM, and Healthcare, the internship has become a powerful tool for shaping the next generation of skilled professionals and empowering them to pursue careers in these rapidly growing fields.

As the AccelerateMs/Three Rivers EPIC WEX paid internship program continues to grow, it is clear that the initiative is making a lasting impact on students, employers, and the community alike. With each passing year, the program is helping more students like Bryson Flowers unlock their potential and take the next steps toward successful careers.

GCTC Culinary Class Studies Mardi Gras



GCTC Culinary Arts Students (l to r) Lani Mabry, Bella Ford, Sydney-Cate Cockrum, Charlee Williams, Lexi Mabry, Carly Parker, and Victoria Foster enjoyed learning the history of Mardi Gras and the process of baking King Cakes.

Visit Grenada School District's newest hands-on learning facility — a science-based, escape-room-style museum.

Director: Tammie Cavanaugh
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Email: balloonquest2022@gmail.com
Web: bit.ly/balloonquest
Location: 1779 Jackson Ave. Grenada, MS

BALLOON QUEST

A JOURNEY OF SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

GSD School Board Receives Award



Grenada School Board member (left) Mrs. Arlene Conley-White and (right) Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault accepted the Lighthouse School Leader Beacon Award.

The Grenada School Board was recognized with the prestigious Lighthouse School Leader Beacon Award for achieving an A-rated district status. This award, presented by the Mississippi School Boards Association (MSBA), recognizes exceptional leadership and dedication to advancing public education. The Light-

house Award celebrates districts that implement innovative practices, improve student achievement, and engage their communities in meaningful ways. This recognition underscores the school board's commitment to excellence, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

