



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Nancy Kunkler

Email: nkunkler@wbsd-schools.org

Phone: (262) 335-5459

Latest Fast Forward Grant and Donation Helps Build Marketable Skills for West Bend East and West High Schools Students

West Bend — Using a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Wisconsin Fast Forward Program, a donation from J.W. Speaker Corporation, and school funds, the West Bend High Schools have purchased two professional-grade Markforged 3D Printing Platforms to further align the school's engineering and manufacturing programs with industry standards.

This is the second time the West Bend High Schools have earned the grant and donation, giving the manufacturing and engineering program three total 3D printers. The 3D printers allow students to learn rapid prototyping. They can use software to 3D-model a solution and print either a finished product or scale model using the printers. The printers provide more exposure to cutting-edge skills as well as marketing skills for students.

West Bend High Schools earned the grant from the current round of Wisconsin Fast Forward grants, which are made by the Department of Workforce Development to school districts across the state to support the purchase and installation of technical education equipment used for vocational training and technical education in advanced manufacturing fields.

"Having these printers and providing learning experiences utilizing this technology at this young age will help prepare our graduates for the ever changing careers in manufacturing and engineering," said Tim Harder, director of facilities and technology.

This cutting-edge technology is made possible through support from J.W. Speaker Corporation. "J.W. Speaker has supported our schools for some time; not just through monetary donations but also visiting classrooms and mentoring students. These new printers would not have been possible without their support once again," said Harder.

The West Bend Joint School District #1 is proud to serve nearly 5,800 students and their families from the city of West Bend, villages of Jackson and Newburg, and townships of Barton, Polk, Trenton, Jackson, West Bend, and Addison. We strive to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts, and co-curricular activities. Within our community-based 4K program, Head Start program, five elementary schools (K-4), one intermediate school (5-6), one middle school (7-8), and two high schools (9-12), families can expect a caring, inclusive learning environment that supports the development of the whole child. Visit www.west-bend.k12.wi.us for more information.

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