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Press Release
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TBAISD Career-Tech Center Manufacturing Technology Academy Program Earns Best in State Honors

Traverse City --- Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District Career-Tech Center **Manufacturing Technology Academy (MTA)** staff and administrators were honored in Grand Rapids on February 2 by the Michigan Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education with the prestigious **2015 Career and College Readiness Initiative Excellence in Practice Award**. MTA was selected for exemplifying the highest standards in preparing Michigan's students for postsecondary education and careers.

MTA is a high school education program within Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District's Career-Tech Center, serving students throughout the five-county Traverse Bay region. MTA students engage in rigorous academics including chemistry, physics, economics, technical writing, public speaking, and mathematics. MTA's two-year technical curriculum builds student knowledge and hands-on experience in design; robotics and automation; quality assurance; fluid power; manufacturing processes; electrical systems; and project management and teamwork.

Approximately 95% of MTA graduates move on to postsecondary training. MTA alumni typically attend two- and four-year colleges and university to study engineering or manufacturing-related coursework or go directly into industry from high school to work as computer numerical control operators, machine operators, quality assurance personnel or similar jobs. Many return to work in northwest Lower Michigan, contributing to the region's economy and adding value to the products and services they provide.

The Manufacturing Technology Academy is a partnership among the TBAISD Career-Tech Center (CTC), Northwestern Michigan College, and area manufacturers who provide high level academic instruction, relevant work experience, and industry mentors to enrich the learning experience for each student. Over time, this partnership has forged and refined this outstanding career training opportunity for area high school students.

This is the third Excellence in Practice Award for the TBAISD Career-Tech Center in five years. This regional education center was previously honored in 2011 for Instructional Leadership; providing quality academic integration and authentic delivery of Michigan Merit Curriculum in its career and technical programs. In 2013 the Teacher Academy was recognized for rigorous academic and work-based learning opportunities in the field of teaching.

To learn more about the Traverse Bay Area Career-Tech Center or the Manufacturing Technology Academy call 231-922-6273 or go to www.tbactc.org.

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Photo included: (L to R) MTA Instructors Tim Wheatley, Hollianne McHugh, Deb Menchaca, and Debby Oliver; TBAISD Superintendent Mike Hill, Governor Rick Snyder, CTC Assistant Superintendent Matt Nausadis, MTA Guidance Board members Al Jordan, Brian Dubow and Carl Kucsera (front); CTC Principal Pat Lamb and CTC Curriculum Director Mary Smith (back), and TBAISD Assistant Superintendent of General and Career & Technical Education Jason Jeffrey.