

**WASD**

MAY 2019 | ISSUE 6

# INTERNSHIPS

## MORGAN CORP

MANUFACTURING EXPERIENCE

- ➔ Hands-on experience
- ➔ Real-life applications
- ➔ Career-readiness

PROFILE

# MORGAN CORPORATION



Morgan Corporation, the largest manufacturer of medium duty freight and refrigerated van and truck bodies in North America has provided an 18-week welding training program to JSHS students interested in manufacturing.

This unique opportunity was first introduced at the Wyomissing Area School Board meeting in January by Dr. Melissa Woodard, Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Brady Bagwan from Morgan Corp shared an overview of the partnership with the District.

Because the program is an external internship, students are paid with the availability of additional part-time employment leading to a full-time position as a production associate, while still earning elective credits toward graduation.

Morgan Corp. is also providing roundtrip transportation from the JSHS to their facility in Morgantown. Our students share:

*"The class is going well, I really like it. I feel I need to learn more about the science. I have all the basics down, I think I may be able to do it on my own. I would like to go to community college and continue to work for Morgan Corporation. I really wish we had more time to learn instead of two hours. I really like Khalid (instructor), he knows how to be serious and keep it light hearted."*

Students also have the opportunity to learn about the benefits of employment with companies similar to Morgan Corporation who offer a tuition reimbursement program to allow

their employees to pursue another field in the company.

The ultimate goal of the partnership is for full-time competitive employment.

Morgan has committed to our students that upon completion of this program and graduation from high school, students will be offered a full time position with Morgan, beginning the day after graduation.

Morgan has committed to transporting our students up to three months after graduation, until they can secure their own transportation.

Wyomissing has recently partnered with Wilson High School to extend this opportunity to their students this spring and two of their seniors are currently in the program with Wyomissing students.



*"I really like the program, welding is pretty cool. I like both the class and hands on part. The instructor is great. I will probably try to work with Morgan after program. Hoping to make a career out of it."*

## BUILDING CAREER-READINESS

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➔ **Hands-On Experience**

➔ **Real-Life Applications**

➔ **Career-Readiness**

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**"It is important for students to intern to gain insight into careers and opportunities that are steadily growing and redefining the workforce."**

**-Peter Beck**

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# ABOUT

## THE WYOMISSING AREA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Wyomissing Area Senior High School Internship Program is part of an initiative from the Pennsylvania Department of Education called Pennsylvania Career Readiness. The goals of the Internship Program, which has been in development for the last year, are to:

- provide students with the opportunity for career exploration and hands-on field experience before choosing a career or postsecondary area of concentration;
- give interns exposure to the professional expectations of the "working world";
- connect academic applications to practical skills; and
- meaningfully extend every academic department's existing curriculum.

For the 2019 spring session, ten student interns are working with mentors in internal placements throughout the school district. As teacher and Internship Coordinator Peter Beck explains, "This pilot year will provide valuable data and feedback to enhance the experience for next year's interns."

Internships expose students to real-world careers in their field of interest. "It is important for students to intern to gain insight into careers and opportunities that are steadily growing and redefining the workforce, such as computer science, STEM applications, mathematics, engineering, business, finance, and medicine, among many others," Mr. Beck comments. "If students can gain practical experience through a dynamic internship program, our hope is they'll be more prepared to enter the work force or a postsecondary academic setting."

Mr. Beck continues, "Conversely, if a student is undecided about their focus, this program affords them the opportunity to explore potential careers before committing money and time to a potentially fruitless endeavor."

In addition to hands-on work with a mentor, each student-intern is required to submit weekly experience journals, conduct two professional interviews, and review two relevant professional journals per semester. The assignments are not necessarily designed for writing, but more as an activity for further engagement in their selected field.

There are no academic prerequisites for participation. Students who are interested in participating should speak with their counselor.