



Preparation-Passion-Perseverance

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

**GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL
VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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School Committee Members

Rita M. Ribeiro, Chair, New Bedford

Randall C. Durrigan, Vice-Chair, Fairhaven

Dr. Cynthia Marland, Dartmouth

Michael Shea, Dartmouth

Wayne Oliveira, Fairhaven

Joshua Amaral, New Bedford

Frederick J. Toomey, New Bedford

Patrick J. Walsh, Esq., New Bedford

The District School Committee sets policy and approves the budget for the school. The eight-member Committee include four members from New Bedford and two each from Dartmouth and Fairhaven. A student serves as the ninth, non-voting member of the group. In May of 2019, the School Committee held its annual organizational meeting. Rita Ribeiro, of New Bedford was elected chair and Randall Durrigan, of Fairhaven was elected vice-chair. Corvens Depaliste has joined the School Committee as a student representative for the 2019-2020 school year. Corvens is a senior majoring in Medical Assisting. Corvens lives in New Bedford.

OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Administrators



James L. O'Brien
Superintendent-Director



Pamela Stuart
School Business Administrator

School Administrators



Robert J. Watt
CTE Principal



Michael P. Watson
Academic Principal

The Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical School District (GNB Voc-Tech) mission is to provide education that is rigorous, relevant, and meaningful to each student in a safe and supportive environment; resulting in academic, career and technical excellence. This experience encourages lifelong learning, fosters mutual respect, and instills social responsibility, respect for diversity, and responsible citizenship. The district has a public, four-year vocational technical high school and a public post-secondary Institute offering open and selective enrollment programs. GNB Voc-Tech is one of the largest vocational-technical high schools in Massachusetts with over 2,100 students and enrolls more than 1,500 in Institute programs annually. The school's roots date back over a century, to the creation of the New Bedford Independent Industrial School in 1908.

Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School

GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School is a four-year career and vocational technical high school. The school provides career and technical education as well as academic instruction to students from New Bedford, Dartmouth and Fairhaven. With its roots dating back to 1908, it opened as a regional vocational technical high school in 1977. As of October 1, 2019, there were 2,125 students enrolled in grades 9-12. Of those, 1,638 lived in New Bedford, 325 lived in Dartmouth, and 162 lived in Fairhaven.

Career Majors-

GNB Voc-Tech offers more than two dozen career and technical education programs. During the past year, career majors included Architectural Design, Automotive Technology, Business Technology, Carpentry, Collision Repair Technology, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Dental Assisting, Diesel Service Technology, Early Childhood Education, Electrical Technology, Mechanical Design, Engineering & Robotics, Environmental Science and Technology, Fashion Design, HVAC, Information Support Services and Networking, Computer Information Technology, Legal and Protective Services, Machine Technology, Media Technology, Medical Assisting, Welding Technology, Nurse Assisting/Health Assisting, Plumbing, Programming and Web Development, Stationary Engineering, and Visual Design.





Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical Institute

The GNB Voc-Tech Vocational Technical Institute (GNB Voc-TechI) offers open enrollment and selective enrollment programs at the post-secondary and continuing education levels. GNB Voc-TechI (formerly known as Adult Education) was founded in 1972 in the GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical School District in New Bedford, Massachusetts. In addition to the economic benefits for the participants and our local economy, each year more than 1,500 area residents complete GNB Voc-TechI programs with additional skills, greater competency in their fields, increased confidence, and new or renewed interests as well as new social contacts.

GNB Voc-TechI offers open enrollment for more than 80 courses. Courses include licensed trade areas of electrical, medical, carpentry, EMT, and plumbing, and non-licensed areas including machine shop, automotive, computer technology, photography, pharmacy tech, and welding. Language courses include Portuguese, Spanish, and American Sign Language. Classes are also offered in culinary, clothing, gardening, woodworking, and other areas of special interest.

GNB Voc-TechI offers Chapter 74 state-approved post-secondary programming in Marine Technology. GNB Voc-TechI post-secondary programs are rigorous and prepare learners to meet the challenges of their selected career and industry. All applicants must apply for selective admission to the post-secondary programs.

Highlights of the Year 2019

The GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School continues to offer a high quality, rigorous education to all students. With twenty-seven career and technical trades areas for students to choose and an academic curriculum that has GNB Voc-Tech meeting state standards (as measured by the state's accountability system), the school continues to provide regional students with an array of post-secondary opportunities. GNB Voc-Tech is in the 64th percentile of public high schools as measured by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's accountability system.

GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School continues to offer students a range of post-secondary opportunities with nearly 70% of graduates choosing post-secondary educational institutions and the remainder entering the workforce or joining the military. Incoming enrollment at GNB Voc-Tech remains as strong as prior years. 1, 213 students applied for the Class of 2023 and as of December 31, 2019, 974 students have applied for the Class of 2024. While GNB Voc-Tech has consistently seen a large number of applicants each year, this hasn't prevented the district from modernizing its application process in an effort to improve. GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School is in the fourth year of its revamped, online application process and has seen an increasing number of applications when compared with the prior school year.

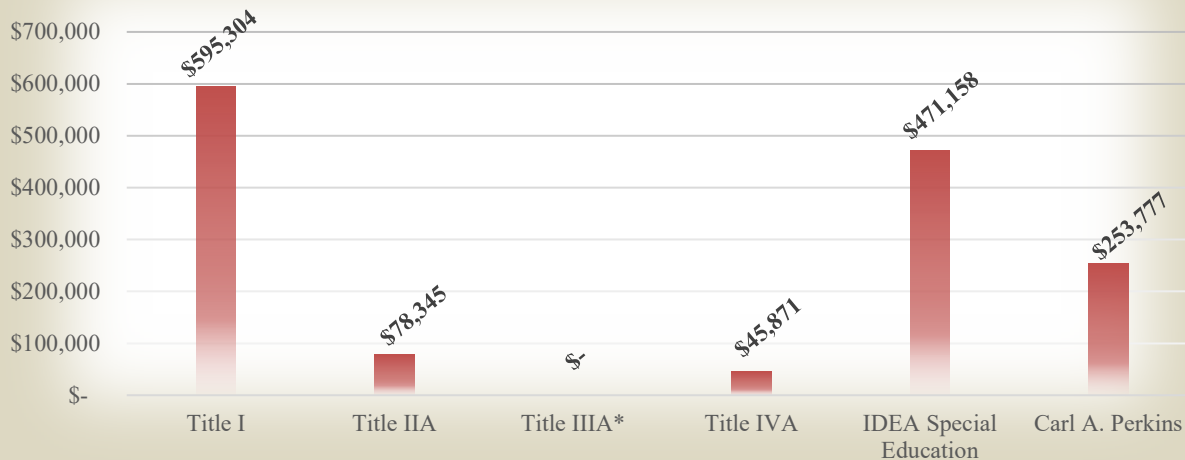
In addition to the high number of students seeking a vocational technical education, students currently enrolled in the school continue to shine. The 2018-2019 student daily attendance rates exceeded 96%, providing credible evidence of the district's focus on school attendance as a top indicator for graduation success.

Visitors from across the state continue to be impressed by the GNB Voc-Tech campus. While safety at the school remains the highest priority for all students, staff, and visitors, district personnel are proud of the commitment to continuously improve the physical structure of the school. The school has improved security features at the school, installed additional security measures, and continues to monitor changing technologies to ensure safety at the school.

District Budget and Assessment

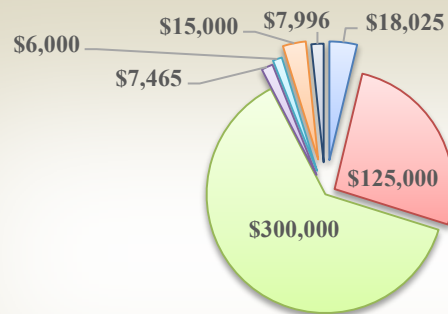
The District's total budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 was \$39,179,817. Of this amount, the City of New Bedford was responsible for 76.6 %, the Town of Fairhaven was responsible for 8.4 %, and the Town of Dartmouth was responsible for 14.9 %. For fiscal year 2019, the District's total assessment to the three member communities was \$12,079,030. This figure represented 31.0 % of the total District budget. Each year, the school district works hard to keep its budget at the required net school spending level.

\$1,444,445 IN FEDERAL FUNDING FROM COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS FOR FY2019



*For the 2020 calendar year application, the District collaborated with Fairhaven Public Schools and Dartmouth Public Schools for Title III funding which will be reported in the next Annual Report. Title III Part A of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides funds to help English learners, including immigrant children and youth, succeed in school by assisting them in becoming fluent in English and meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards.

\$479,486 in Competitive Grants Awarded to GNB Voc-Tech in 2019

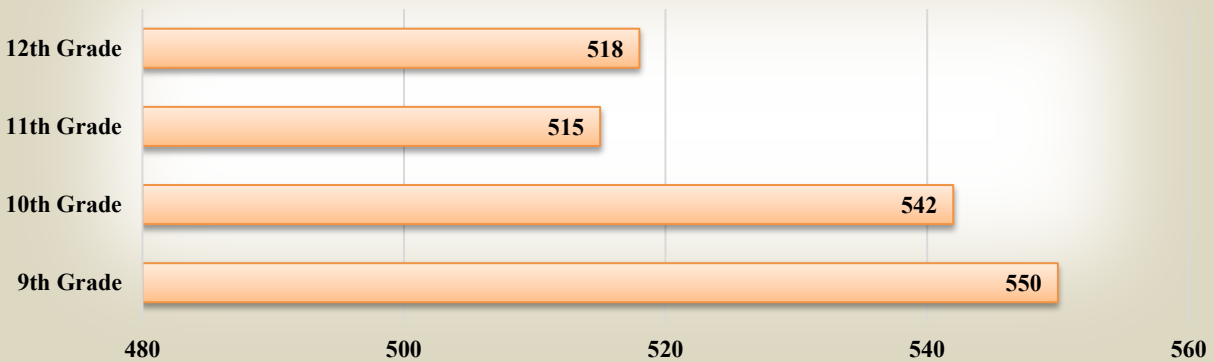


- United Way Community Impact for H.S. Student Mentor Program
- Mass. Skills Capital for CNC carpentry equipment and room renovations
- Mass. Skills Capital for welding automation equipment
- DESE History and Social Studies to align our local curriculum to new DESE Frameworks
- Community Foundation of S.E. Mass. Polaroid for Adult E.S.L. Program
- DESE for Partnership grant w/NB Public Schools to review After Dark programming
- Mass. Marine Trade Association for the new Marine Technology Program

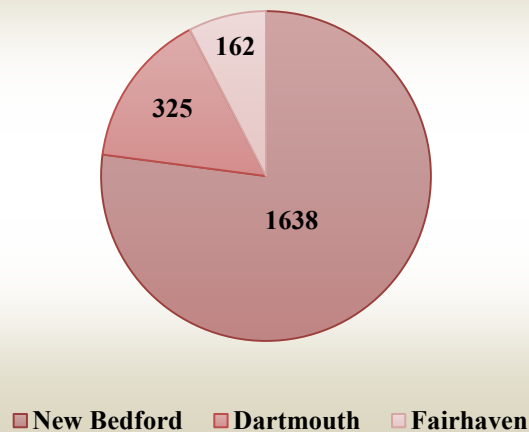
School Enrollment

October 1st marks the due date for official reporting of enrollment data to the state. It is clear that our efforts to continue to attract and keep students in school have been successful. As of October 1, 2019, there were 2,125 students enrolled in grades 9-12. There were 1,023 females and 1,102 males. Enrollment still remains strong!

**No. of Students enrolled in 2019
by Grade**



Student Breakdown by City/Town



In the spring, the school completed its annual survey of students' plans after graduation. This survey is required by the Perkins grant and is needed as part of our end-of-the-year data reporting to the state. According to the survey, 68.9% of the students in the Class of 2019 planned to pursue a post-secondary education, 26% planned to enter the workforce, and 5.1% planned to enter the military.

Positive MCAS Results for 2019

Passing the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exam is a graduation requirement in Massachusetts. Sophomore students are tested in three areas: English Language Arts (ELA), Math, and Biology.

We are pleased with the results of the spring 2019 MCAS administration. In ELA, GNB Voc-Tech students performed in the 68th percentile statewide while seeing improved growth scores in the 60th percentile. In Math, GNB Voc-Tech students scored in the 67th percentile and had growth scores that outperformed 86% of public high school students in the Commonwealth. Equally impressive, students in Biology performed at their highest level (60th percentile) in the eight year testing window while dropout and graduation rates improved. Student attendance remained in the top 15% statewide.

“The staff and faculty continue to do exemplary work in advancing student growth” said Superintendent O’Brien. Adding, “Students continue to grow at higher rates than their peer groups across the state and should be commended for their preparation, passion, and perseverance.” The district has reduced the number of students in the warning/failing categories in all tested areas and improved the percentage of students scoring proficient and/or advanced in all assessments.

John and Abigail Adams Scholarship

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for up to eight semesters of undergraduate education at a Massachusetts state college or university. The scholarship covers tuition only; fees and room and board are not included. Students qualify for the merit-based John and Abigail Adams Scholarship based upon their performance in the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exams. The scholarship is open to all public school students who score in the “Advanced” category in English, Math, or Biology section of the MCAS test and score at least “Proficient” on the other two sections of the exam. The student's MCAS scores must also rank in the top 25 percent of their school district to qualify. Scholarship eligibility is based on each student's **first attempt** at taking the spring grade 10 MCAS tests in ELA, Mathematics, and STE Tests. In order to receive the scholarship, a student must be enrolled in a Massachusetts public high school in his or her senior year. The Class of 2019 had 142 students qualify for the John & Abigail Adams Scholarship.

Guidance, Health & Pupil Personnel Services

The objectives of the Office of Guidance, Health & Pupil Personnel Services are multifaceted. The department is composed of an extremely diverse staff who are trained in a variety of specialized areas. During the 2018 year GNB Voc-Tech employed 8 Guidance Counselors, 2 School Adjustment Counselors, 2.5 Nurses, 1 Student Registrar and 3 Secretary/Clerks. Each day, staff work to make a difference in the lives of GNB Voc-Tech youth. The services we provide are essential in assisting students successfully meet the challenges they may face. These specially trained and licensed staff are responsible for providing consultation and direct intervention to students and families in regards to academic, college and career readiness, behavioral, emotional, physical, medical and/or social issues.

GNB Voc-Tech school counselors do an outstanding job of working with every student to assist in determining the right path for them. In 2019, 100% of our graduates left GNB Voc-Tech with endless opportunities and a solid plan for their future. It is through our rigorous academic and high-quality vocational technical educational opportunities that we prepare our students for the real world challenges and expectations. Our students graduate from GNB Voc-Tech with a solid academic background, problem solving abilities, work ethic and employment skills that place our students in a prime position to immediately enter college or a career of their choice.

GNB Voc-Tech accepts 565 incoming 9th grade students as well as a limited number of 10th and 11th grade students from Dartmouth, Fairhaven and New Bedford. Admission determinations are based on applicants' grades, attendance, behavior/conduct and recommendations from their sending school as outlined in the DESE approved GNB Voc-Tech Admissions Policy.

GNB Voc-Tech has partnered with Go2CTE, an online software program used by fourteen other vocational-technical high schools in Massachusetts. The online application process provides GNB Voc-Tech more access to students and families as well as provides three-way communication between GNB Voc-Tech, the student and family, and the sending school district. As of December 31, 2018 GNB Voc-Tech received over 800 online applications, an increase from 700 in 2017. This online application program has truly put us ahead in regards to applications received, as they were not consistently received until after the holidays in previous years.

Student Attendance Stays Strong

GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School has a very rigorous Attendance Policy that is outlined in the student handbook. The Attendance Department has made great strides since the implementation of a few new policies beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. The policy changes have held students accountable for their behavior by raising the expectations for students to be prepared, present and on time every day. In the 2018-2019 school year, the dismissal policy was revised to tighten up security within the building resulting in a safer learning and work environment for both students and staff. Our Truancy Prevention Team has been successful in assessing our most at-risk students and reducing chronic absenteeism by providing resources to problem solve. These changes in school policies are reflected positively in our weekly percentage results. The District works hard to make sure students are present at school every day. Currently, our daily attendance rate is 97+ and this is also our target daily attendance rate for the district. All these changes have contributed in maintaining a positive school culture. This 2019-2020 school year, GNB Voc-Tech continues with a 97+ yearly attendance rate, a 25% reduction in the dropout rate leading to an overall increase in the graduation rate of 90.1 %.

New this 2019-2020 school year, all students serve tardy/detention in one location in a timely manner holding students more accountable. As a result there is a decrease in the overall number of students reporting into tardy without a valid excuse. Due to the new Dismissal Policy the volume of daily dismissals has decreased. Reinforcing the need for parents/guardians to keep Emergency 10A forms updated has worked out well sending a message to parents/guardians that a student cannot be released to a person not listed on the 10A form or to anyone that does not produce valid photo identification. Also, the new opportunity of a Community Service Project for senior students that need to complete time-owed to meet the graduation requirement has been met with success. In addition, the implementation of a new and updated webpage for students and their parents to find accurate information regarding our school policies has been well received.

Cooperative Education and Placement

During the 2018-2019 school year we had 144 students on co-op at 77 sites. In addition to the invaluable experience that our students are gaining, they earned a total of \$738,275.37. Many of these students will stay with these companies after graduation in either full or part-time capacity. Our partnership with SouthCoast Hospitals, SouthCoast Physicians Group and Hawthorn Medical Associates (Steward Health Care), has continued to grow as well as our relationships with other community businesses.

CVTE Dual Enrollment Program

Eligible high school students may enroll in Bristol Community College, UMASS Dartmouth or MASS Maritime courses to earn college credit while in high school. This statewide program grants college credit for Dual Enrollment students attending any Massachusetts State school and can save time and money on a college degree.

Articulation Agreements

Under the CVTE program, post-secondary institutions grant credits for certain courses at GNB Voc-Tech High School which they deem the equivalent of courses offered at the post-secondary institution. These are called Articulation Agreements. Many colleges and technical schools have Articulation Agreements with GNB Voc-Tech. We also have several Regional Articulation Agreements. Students must maintain an average of a B grade or better and meet any other program specific criteria, depending on the college or technical school, to be eligible for these credits.

Extracurricular Activities

After-Prom Committee, Ambassadors for Excellence, American Sign Language, Anime Club, Artisan Motorworks Club, Bears Building Community, Bowling Club, Business Professionals of America, Chess Club, Creative Services Team, Cultural Consciousness Club, Engineering & Robotics, Gender Sexuality Alliance, Law Society, Multicultural Club, Music Club, Non-Traditional Careers Club, Origami Club, Professional Speaking, Rachel's Challenge Club Ski & Snowboard Club, SkillsUSA, Student Council, Students Against Destructive Decisions (S.A.D.D.), Student Mentors Program, Table-top Gaming Club, Voc-Tech Theatre Company, Yearbook Club, Yoga Club

Summer Literacy Program

GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School enters its tenth year of a Summer Literacy Program. The Integrated Summer Reading Program was designed to promote literacy as an essential life skill.

Every student, including incoming ninth-graders, were required to read at least one book during the summer. The reading requirement for the school was:

Grade 9 - *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson

Grade 10 - *Shelter* by Harlen Coben or *The Red Umbrella* by Christina Diaz Gonzalez

Grade 11 - *Mary, Bloody Mary* by Carolyn Meyer

Grade 12 - *One of Us is Lying* by Karen M. McManus or *I Am the Messenger* by Markus Zusak

Students were given varying assignments, including journal prompts, chapter summaries and vocabulary, in English and social studies on their reading. Each subject assignment will count as a grade during the first marking period of the 2019-2020 school year in the correlating content class. In addition to the school-wide reading assignment, Honors students read: *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright (grade 10), *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines (grade 11) and *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver (grade 12). AP English students read *1984* by George Orwell, *On Writing* by Stephen King and *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer (grade 11) and *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy, *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger, and *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams (grade 12).

Downloadable study guides were available to students through the school's web site. Students were also required to do a "Math Packet" that was set forth by the Math Department.

GNB Voc-Tech Holds Annual Open House

GNB Voc-Tech held its' Annual Open House Sunday November 24th. The school hosted both current and prospective students and parents.

The opening ceremony began at 11:00 a.m. in the Z. Walter Janiak Fieldhouse with more than 1,200 prospective students and parents in attendance. Superintendent James O'Brien opened the ceremony welcoming the crowd and encouraging students and parents to explore the school's campus and to ask many questions about what the school has to offer. O'Brien stated, "This school offers both a rigorous academic education evidenced by our MCAS and accountability scores and a high quality, robust career and technical training that prepares students for work in the trades after high school".

Director of Guidance and Pupil Personnel Services Dr. Heather Larkin spoke about the school's academic and 27 career and technical programs available to students and the many opportunities to consider when applying. She highlighted the online application process and encouraged parents and prospective students to visit the career and technical areas that day to gain greater insight into GNB Voc-Tech's offerings. All career and technical programs were open with students demonstrating their acquired technical skills. The hallways were filled with both students and parents moving throughout the facility with amazement of all that the school has to offer.

GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the City of New Bedford, the Towns of Dartmouth and Fairhaven, and is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel. It provides educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms. SkillsUSA sponsors the SkillsUSA Championships annually to recognize the achievements of vocational and technical students and to encourage them to strive for excellence and pride in their chosen occupations. Between January and December 2019, GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical High School (GNB Voc-Tech) hosted the District I Competition, took part in both the State and National competitions and participated in the Chapter Officer Retreat, Fall Leadership conference, MRE Challenge and the SAiL Conference, while completing numerous community service activities.

January 2019 - MRE Challenge

This challenge is in cooperation with the Massachusetts National Guard. Contestants will demonstrate using their culinary knowledge and sanitation as well their ability to utilize and be creative with Military issue MREs. GNB Voc-Tech was represented by a team of three contestants that thoroughly enjoyed the experience, they were also able to meet and speak with a celebrity chef judge.

January 2019 - Freshmen Orientation

The SkillsUSA Officers and State Officer Candidates spoke to the assembly of Freshmen students about the opportunities for them to compete for SkillsUSA.

February 2019 - SAiL Conference

This conference focused on our seniors who will graduate with seemingly limitless opportunities for quality employment largely due to the drastic skills gap in today's workforce. SkillsUSA business partners and program graduates shared several timely resources and experiences that support the framework of the SkillsUSA mission, which includes personal, workplace, and technical skills grounded in academics – designed to assist our seniors with successful transition from CTE to college and careers ensuring every SkillsUSA member is Job-Ready, Starts Here.

The training content included:

- Résumé Roundtable – Learning how to craft/improve résumés, leveraging electronic options, and developing a personal marketing toolkit.
- College: The Plan B – Learning the strategies of staying in school when reality happens. #reallife
- Career: Options & Opportunities – Learning about the many opportunities for quality careers.
- Productive & Promotable – Learning the skills & strategies of being a quality employee, SkillsUSA style: Personal, Workplace & Technical Skills
- Navigating Networking – Learning the skills of employer networking and relationship building

The one day conference was attended by 8 seniors and 2 advisors. All enjoyed the overall experience and all of the students brought back graduation stoles.

February 2019 - SkillsUSA Week

National SkillsUSA Week - Champions at Work from February 4 - 8, 2019 consisted of Care Package Kickoff on Monday for the Community Service Project, District I Competitions Prep Meeting on Tuesday, Advisor Appreciation Day on Wednesday, Social Media Day on Thursday and Wear SkillsUSA Logo Gear or Red in support of SkillsUSA.

March 2019 - District Competition

GNB Voc Tech hosted the seven hour event for the District Competition for District I schools (Blue Hills RTHS, Cape Cod RTHS, Old Colony RTHS, Plymouth North High School, Plymouth South High School, Silver Lake Regional High School, South Shore VTHS, Taunton HS and Upper Cape Cod RTHS). The school committee and administration continue to support our organization. Many of the administrators volunteer in the kitchen to serve meals to the students and faculty of our school and the visiting schools.

This year, students from GNB Voc-Tech earned 45 first and second place medals and 12 third place medals, including one medalist with perfect scores in the trade area during the competition involving students from the 10 schools that make up District I. The 45 medalists first and second place medalists then represented the school at the state competition in April. In addition, Ramon Corado was nominated to become a State Officer Candidate and Dakota Chixarro remained in his

position on the State Leadership team. Approximately 1,000 students took part in the district competition which the school has hosted since 2009. Their success is due to the support of our school's administration, advisors, and the teachers who have trained and prepared the students to meet the newest in national industry standards. It is at the district level that the students are tested in their written knowledge of their trade/competition areas, along with their knowledge of SkillsUSA, employability, and professional development.

April 2019 - State Competition

The SkillsUSA State competition takes place in Marlborough, Massachusetts and is a three-day event. More than 3,000 students from 51 schools across Massachusetts compete in the practical, hands-on portion of the competition that range from 3D Visualization to Welding Sculpture, along with the leadership events such as Prepared Speech and Employment Application Process.

The 87 students from GNB Voc-Tech did themselves, their career & technical areas, and their school proud, bringing home numerous medals and honors. The medal count was 6 gold medals, 24 silver medals, 12 bronze medals, and the school was recognized as a Chapter of Excellence Gold Chapter of Distinction. The gold medalists earned the opportunity to represent their state at the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky in June. Eighty-seven students and twenty advisors/chaperones from GNB Voc-Tech took part in the state competition this year.

June 2018 - National Competition

More than 15,000 people, including students, teachers and business partners, took part in the week-long event in Louisville, Kentucky. A total of 7 students and 7 advisor/chaperones from GNB Voc-Tech attended the National Leadership & Skills Conference. To be eligible the students needed to earn a gold medal at the Massachusetts SkillsUSA State Conference in April, or the gold medalist could not attend therefore a silver medalist can take their place.

All of the competing students were:

- **Gold**
 - Medical Assisting - **Emily Lemieux** - *Advisor: Pauline O'Brien*
- **Silver**
 - Career Pathways Showcase: Human Services - **Gabriela Adorno Barreira, Chelsea Simpkin, and Madison Tavares** - *Advisor: Patricia Allen*

Other national competitors on the trip included:

Michaela Barreira, earning 8th place in Early Childhood, Ali Silva, earning 9th place in Sheet Metal and Ruby Louro, who performed admirably in Extemporaneous Speech. These students demonstrated skill and leadership in their competitions, performing admirably. Accompanying them was Dakota Chixarro, the Massachusetts State Officer - President who was also recognized on the field at the Louisville Bats SkillsUSA Night for earning the Presidential Volunteer Service Award - Gold Standard after completing over 300 hours of community service. Chaperones were Lori Russell-Pelsue, Meghan Lacasse, Deb Brightman, Yasmin Flefleh-Vincent, Dennis Tetreault, Lauren Aubertine and Michelle Alexander, who was able to document the event.

September 2019 - Chapter Officer Retreat

The elected GNB Voc-Tech Chapter Officer Team participated in an all day orientation, training and leadership retreat on Saturday, September 21, 2019. The eight chapter officers completed a morning of getting to know you and sailing activities at the Community Boating Center, which was followed by an afternoon of learning the SkillsUSA Frameworks and planning activities. The evening culminated with a 4 course dinner that was shared together with the intent of learning dining etiquette.

September 2019 - Sophomore Orientation

The SkillsUSA Chapter Officers and the students that attended the National Competition spoke to the assembly of Sophomore students about the opportunities for them to compete for SkillsUSA.

November 2019 - Fall Leadership Conference, Open House and Chapter Officer Membership Drive

The Fall Leadership Conference is an intense leadership and employability skills training for both students and teachers, that includes a community service project at the MetroWest YMCA. This year a group of 20 sophomore students from various career & technical areas attended the three-day event in Marlborough, Massachusetts along with four advisor/chaperones. They came back extremely tired, but incredibly motivated to continue their work on the GNB Chapter Leadership Team. All of the students received their Leadership Medals and brought home Bronze, Silver and Gold medals. The GNB Voc-Tech Chapter Officers and members of the leadership team

participated in the Open House by having an informational table available for students, parents and visitors. They also had a brief meeting for all academies to attend to learn more about SkillsUSA and had a video created to be available to the students that could not attend.

December 2019 - Local Competitions

During the month of December, the career & technical areas hold 70 local competitions, to assess the students in their abilities. 69 advisors proctor and run the local competitions. The top three students are able to represent themselves, their career & technical area and their school at the District Competition in February of 2020.

Business Professionals of America (BPA)

State Competition

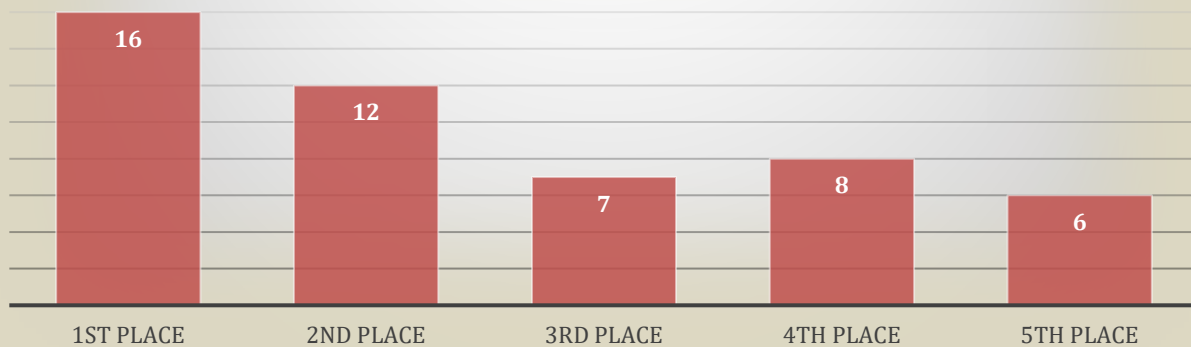
Business Professionals of America is a national career and technical student organization composed of state associations and local chapters serving members pursuing careers in business and information technology occupations. BPA provides opportunities to develop leadership skills, grow personally and professionally, and compete utilizing career related competencies. Involvement in Business Professionals of America enhances social awareness, civic responsibility, and business communication skills.

March 2019, 51 students from Computer Information Technology, Information Support Services and Networking, Programming and Web Development, Business Technology, Media Technology, Legal and Protective Services, and Medical Assisting career majors exemplified the meaning of Preparation, Passion, and Perseverance at the Business Professionals of America - State Leadership Conference in Framingham, MA.

- 42 students represented our school with pride and competed at the state conference
- 49 competitive event awards were won by GNB Voc-Tech students
- 19 students received the Diplomat Level Torch Award
- 5 students received the Statesman Level Torch Award
- 3 State Merit Awards

- 32 out of 42 students are eligible to attend the BPA National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Anaheim, California.
- State Officer: Kiaarah Cortijo was appointed the BPA State Vice President position for 2018-2019.

State Competition results - those eligible to compete in Anaheim, California



National Competition

Walter Elias “Walt” Disney was an American entrepreneur and pioneer who believed, “All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.” Students from GNB Voc-Tech found the courage to pursue their dream as they showcased their knowledge of vocational theory and skills in the national spotlight. GNB Voc-Tech students were among the approximately 7,000 students, chaperones, advisors and guests from across the United States participating in the 53rd Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference. Congratulations to the following students for showcasing their skills and making it on stage by placing among the top 10 in the country in their competitive events.

Abbey Frias
Computer Modeling

Madison Breakfield
Diagnostic Coding

Liani Bajandas
Medical Office Procedures

William Charpentier
Network Design Team

Matthew Trommschlager
Network Design Team

Wyatt Torre
Network Design Team

Abigail Arruda
Broadcast News
Production Team 1

Olivia Benoit
Broadcast News
Production Team 1

Abbey Frias
Broadcast News
Production Team 1

Kyle Faria
Broadcast News
Production Team 1

Ashley Almeida
Broadcast News
Production Team 2

Samantha Masse
Broadcast News
Production Team 2

Sarah Saulnier
Broadcast News
Production Team 2

GNB Voc-Tech received the Social Media Award and the Marketing & Public Relations Award. Cassandra Lindo a GNB Voc-Tech Alumni, was elected President of the Post-Secondary National Officer Team.

The National Leadership Conference is a culmination of the hard work and effort put in by students and their teachers. It brought students from across the country together to participate, network and compete in various trade and leadership events. Activities included general sessions with keynote speakers, business meetings, leadership workshops, contests, election of national officers and tours of Anaheim sights and attractions. The highlights of the conference included a day-long volunteer event, leadership development workshops, SoCal Bash and the presentation of the awards to the winners of the national contests.

“The National Leadership Conference allowed our students to exemplify with pride, the GNB Voc-Tech family way. Students enhanced their leadership skills and educational development through numerous workshops and certification programs. The conference also exposed them to today’s business professionals through various networking events throughout the week,” said chapter advisor, Maciel Pais, who teaches Information Support Services and Networking. “The dedication and commitment displayed by our students and teachers throughout the school year is commendable and what better way to celebrate their accomplishments than at the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California, where, according to Walt Disney, ‘Dreams come true.’”

About Business Professionals of America

Business Professionals of America, Inc. (BPA) is the leading career technical student organization (CTSO) for students pursuing careers in business management, information technology, office administration, marketing and other related career fields.

Established in 1966, BPA is an intra-curricular national membership organization dedicated to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic and technological skills. The organization serves secondary, post-secondary and middle level students and educators by offering programs based on national standards spanning five career pathways: finance, business administration, management information systems, digital communication & design and management, marketing & communication.

For more information, visit: www.bpa.org

Additional Activities

In addition to leadership conferences and competitions, BPA students participated in a variety of community service events: BPA officers collected perishable foods and volunteered for Operation: Food Drop, spent the day volunteering at Gifts 2 Give, Bears Care and volunteered as ushers for the school play.

The BPA officer team have been hard at work in promoting the general welfare of their Business Professionals of America chapter. The team also aligns our chapter to the National Officer Team to plan Social and Challenge weeks.

We have had several fundraisers which include: Kidstuff Coupon Books, Tropical Smoothie, Beef Jerky, 3-in-1 chargers and candy sales. Additional fundraisers are planned for the 2018-2019 school year to help fund the State and National Leadership Conferences. The officer team and advisors meets every Thursday from 2:30-4:00. The entire chapter meets once a month. Officer meeting minutes is available upon request.

Chapter Constitution and Bylaws available [online](#).

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. The Society serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Top academic achievers may be asked to join the National Honor Society.

GNB Voc-Tech inducted 61 students into the National Honor Society. Students from all three districts of New Bedford, Dartmouth and Fairhaven were well represented. The ceremony was held on October 23rd with alum Mr. Justin Gomes, as the keynote speaker. In attendance were Mr. James O'Brien, Superintendent-Director and Michael Watson, Academic Principal who handed out certificates to inductees. Mr. Robert Watt, CTE Principal, Dr. Susan Sylvia, English Dept. Chair, Mr. Michael Shea, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Mr. Fred Toomey and Ms. Rita Ribeiro, New Bedford and many parents and relatives of the students. Students were selected based upon a weighted GPA of 3.6 or higher.

The following student inductees for the 2018 - 2019 school year are from:

New Bedford

Lizbeth Alcantara Ruiz, Ashley Almeida, Zyre Andrade, Abby Araujo, Christopher brunette, Tiana Bulgar, Tameron Carter, Sarah Carvalho, Brenden Catunto, Alessandro Coelho, Kayla dasNeves, Kerina Demers, Corvens Depaliste, Taylor Dobem, Alexys Fonseca, Chloe Frenette, Brittany Gallardo, Sara Gifford, Davi'an Goncalves, Faith Horrocks, Matthew Lorantos, Asher Machado, Magnus Maillet, Miguel Martinez, Adsel Massa, Andrew Medeiros, Isabella Medeiros, Madison Medeiros, Amaia Melo, Jack Ostiguy, Kara Palumbo, Sierra Pereira, Alyssa Pinarreta, Hailey Pittsley, Ethan Rego, Dominique Roderiques, Yarelis Rojas, Janicemar Rullan, Joycemar Rullan, Andrea Silva, Maxwell Silva, Alexander Tavares, Sidney Tavares, Janell Vo.

Dartmouth

Laura Borden, Jack Gifford, Hannah Pax, Julymar Roderiguez, Sarah Saulnier, Wyatt Torre

Fairhaven

Olivia Benoit, Alyssa couto, Piper crooks, Samuel Dansereau, Madison Docca, Brody Hunt, Paige Lynch, Samantha Masse, Jake Riggs, Kerstin Trahan, Hien Vong

Athletics

Students interested in sports have a wide range of choices at GNB Voc-Tech. These offerings include football, soccer, cross country, winter track, spring track, volleyball, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, basketball, baseball, and softball. Additionally, students participate in weight conditioning, fall and winter cheerleading and intramural sports. During the calendar year 2019, GNB Voc-Tech High School enjoyed an extremely competitive year in most sports and continued growth in others.

Winter Sports

Basketball

Our girls' basketball team struggled to a 0-20 season after an unexpected transfer of one of our all-time leading scorers. Despite the winless season many underclassmen showed steady progress throughout the season and will look to be competitive again in the 2019-20 season.

Our boys' basketball team narrowly missed out on a postseason berth finishing with an 8-12 record. The boys' were extremely competitive in all games and lost 5 games by 2 points or less. The team is returning the majority of their scoring and starters next season and should be in the running for a conference championship with additions from the 17-2 JV team.

Track

After the graduation of DJ Amado our boys track team was in need of our returning athletes to step up into leadership positions within the program. Juniors Sheldon Clark and sophomore Alexander DaCruz did just that, and qualified for the D2 State Meet and Sheldon Clark qualified for the All-State Meet. Our girls' team improved with two team wins, and with increased numbers of students participating they will look to improve on that number next season.

Hockey

Our Ice Hockey team qualified for the third consecutive season finishing with a 14-5-1 record. They ultimately fell to rival Dartmouth in the State Tournament. For the first time in over a decade they also qualified for the State Vocational Championship. The team had an awesome experience playing Southeastern at Boston University. They lost the final but have set the program up to be at the top of the state for vocational hockey for years to come. The conclusion of the season closed the books on one of GNB Voc-Tech's greatest hockey players, Jacob "Spicy" Lopes. Jacob ended his 4 year varsity career by leading the state in scoring 48 goals and 25 assists for 73 points. He

was named Standard-Times Hockey Player of the Year and South Conference MVP. He also netted his 100th career point and finished his career with 93 goals, 66 assists and 159 points. More than all of his stats the team will be heavier pressed to replace his leadership.



Spring Sports

Lacrosse

Our boys' & girls' lacrosse teams struggled in the win/loss column; however, both teams gained experience and will look to move into the middle of the SCC next season. Our boys' program finished the season with an all-time high number in participation of 52. Our girls' program continued their upward trend and finished with a program high win total of 7.

Track

Our spring track program hosted another extremely successful Sunset Invitational Track Meet. We welcomed almost 1,000 student-athletes from all over the state. Junior Sheldon Clark ran to an undefeated Conference Championship in the 100 meters. Newcomer Brennen Rosa palced 8th in the long jump at the Division 2 State Meet in his first season with the program.

Volleyball

The boys' volleyball team won the programs 8th straight MVADA championship. They were the top seed in the South Sectional Tournament and lost to Quarter-Finals. Senior setter Ryan Robichaud recorded his 1,000th career assist and was named Standard-Times Volleyball Player of the Year.

Baseball

The baseball team recovered from a down year in 2018 after winning the Division 2 State Championship in 2017. The team was young and full of talent and was able to qualify for the MIAA Tournament, losing a great game to Stoughton 1-0. That would ultimately be the last game for longtime head coach Rick Avila. Coach Avila is leaving the program after 12 seasons, 129 wins, 1 SCC Championship, 2 State Vocational Championships and the first State Championship in school history.

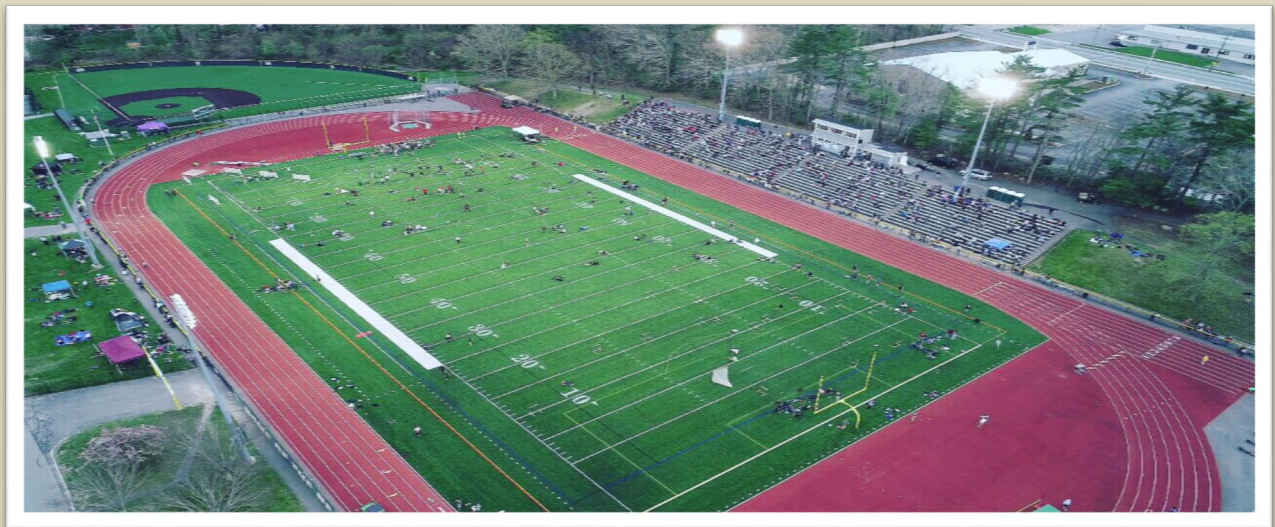
Softball

Our softball team was able to follow up their 2018 State Championship with an 18-2 regular season and the number 1 seed in the Division 2 State Tournament. After winning their 5th consecutive State Vocational Championship the team was able to advance back to the South Sectional Final losing to Norton. Great Senior leadership from Skyla Berube, Shaylen Amaral and Payton Conceicao has continued to set the tone of high expectations or the program.

Fall Sports

Football

The team was able to navigate a difficult first seven games of the season and qualified for the MIAA Division 6 Tournament with a 4-3 record, which included the first win vs Dighton-Rehoboth in over 25 years. The lost in the Quarter-Finals to Rockland, however wins over Bishop Stang and Diman give the program their first winning season since 2015. With just under 100 players finishing the season with the program the future is bright for GNB Voc-Tech Football.



Soccer

Our girls' soccer team improved by two games this season, finishing with a 7-12-1 record. Coach Harvey will lean on a large number of returning starters and leaders to get the program back into the postseason in 2020.

Our boys' soccer team again qualified for the MIAA Division 2 Tournament. The season ended with a 6-2 defeat to Oliver Ames. Junior Dominek Borden earned SCC, Standard-Times, Eastern Mass and All-State All-Star honors for his stellar season for the Bears.

Cross Country & Golf

Our Cross Country and Golf teams again struggled in the win column, however, both programs saw an increase in participation and look to build on those numbers moving into the 2020 season. Finally our girls' volleyball team won their incredible 10th consecutive Vocational State Championship defeating Greater Lawrence and Blackstone Valley Tech. Senior leadership lead the team to the South Coast Conference Blue Division Championship and a berth in the MIAA Division 2 State Tournament. After defeating Bishop Stang the girls fell to a tough Cardinal Spellman team in 4 sets. Senior Abigail Reardon capped off her 4 year career with a program record 746 kills and SCC All-Star, Standard-Times Super Team and D1 All-State Recognition. Fellow seniors Piper Crooks, Meredith Silva, Lindsey Kruger, Joyce Rullan and Janice Rullan continued the high level of leadership expected from our volleyball program on and off the court.

Physical Education and Health

2019 marks the third year our Physical Education Program will have a graduation requirement and will return to numerical grades. As a result the physical education staff has worked to develop new freshmen, sophomore and senior physical education curriculum that is focused on skill development and physical fitness. The teachers have been able to meet all requirements and raise the level of physical education our students are receiving. For the first time our physical education students will be required to complete a final. Our health education staff are also working hard continuing to develop our freshmen health education curriculum.

Voc-Tech Theatre Company

The Voc-Tech Theatre Company presented two productions. The musical *Hairspray* was performed in May of 2019 and the drama, *An Enemy of the People*, was presented in December of 2019. Engaging the creativity of Voc-Tech students participating as actors or on technical crews along with the VTTC parent support group and the talents of many of our shops, these dramatic and musical productions were very well received by their audiences.

Credit for the theatre company's productions goes to Artistic Director Marianne Morrissey who works tirelessly throughout the year managing all aspects of these productions in order to promote and to sustain the VTTC as a creative outlet for our students.

GREATER NEW BEDFORD VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

In May 2019, the GNB Voc-Tech School Committee unanimously voted to transition the Adult Education program to the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical Institute (GNBVTI). GNBVTI offers post-secondary and continuing education classes in licensed and non-licensed trades. GNBVTI also offers enrichment courses including special interests, languages, and art. In each of our three semesters, students are able to choose from over 80 courses in a wide range of fields. Our faculty includes many of the skilled, licensed teachers from our day programs as well as some great experts recruited from our community.

On October 31, 2019 GNBVTI received its first Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Chapter 74 program approval for Marine Technology post-secondary programming. The program started in Fall, 2019. The GNBVTI 5-year strategic plan includes introduction of several post-secondary certificate programs including Advanced Manufacturing, Computer Information Systems and Aviation Technology.

GNBVTI programs leverage the state-of-the-art GNBVTI facility by offering courses in our technical areas, such as carpentry, welding, automotive, and machine shop. We also offer computer classes in many different areas including digital photography, Auto CAD, and Microsoft Office. The tuition for these classes typically range from \$135 to \$175, depending on the topic. Enrichment classes, which start at \$85, give students an opportunity to improve themselves through hobbies,

health, and art. These practical arts classes include painting, cooking, cake decorating, quilting, knitting, upholstery, yoga, and self-defense. Due to the social nature of the program, many of our students take classes over multiple semesters. Language courses, which typically cost \$135 for residents, help students to communicate in personal and business settings. The program offers beginning and advanced instruction in Portuguese, Spanish, and American Sign Language.

The school also offers several courses that are required for licensing in various trades. Our Adult Education Program is an approved site for classes with the MA State Board of Electricians, MA State Board of Plumbers and Gas Fitters, MA Board of Building Regulations and Standards, and MA State Board of Steam Engineers. We also provide certification for National Restaurant Association Serv-Safe, American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians (EKG Technician), and OSHA Construction and Safety. In addition, we offer classes in health fields such as Ophthalmic Assistant and Pharmacy Technician. Tuition generally ranges from \$200 to \$600 per course, depending on the subject.

Students from all over Massachusetts and Rhode Island travel to GNBVTI to participate in our many programs. We offer district and non-district pricing, giving discounts to learners from our sending communities of New Bedford, Dartmouth, and Fairhaven. Senior citizen students (60 or over) also receive a \$10 tuition discount.

GNBVTI has teamed up with GNB MASSHIRE to train 12 Adults in Advanced Manufacturing during the day from 8:00 – 2:30 for 90 days. Several students already have secured jobs in the field. A second group of adults will begin in Late January. The Machine Technology/Advanced Manufacturing program provides instruction in: Basic Machining Principles, Advanced Machining Principles, Mastercam CAD/CAM part design, part posting and downloading to CNC equipment, as well as hand sketching and basic blueprints.

In 2018, GNBVTI served a total of 1,432 students. We had 433 students taking classes in the Winter with an additional 316 in the Spring. 594 students took classes in the Fall with an additional 56 in the Fall extension and 33 students trying our new Workshops.

Closing Remarks

The Irish poet William Butler Yeats once said, “Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”

As you have read in this annual report, Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech is ablaze with success ignited from the hard work of our students, faculty and administrators. We are proud of the tremendous strides our students have made in all aspects of their education – classroom, shop, athletics and extracurricular activities – all of which are designed to develop them into adults ready to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

More than ever before, students want to attend GNBVT because they and their parents understand they will receive a strong public education while at the same time learning the skills needed to enter the workforce and obtain good paying jobs upon graduation.

Our budget is on a strong foundation thanks to good fiscal management and control. We are proud of the outside grants our programs have received, alleviating the need to ask our sending districts for further taxpayer dollars. And we will continue to do so in the coming year.

Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School strives to do so much more than simply fill Yeats pail, we endeavor to ignite the educational fires in our student’s everyday by preparing them for the future, with passion, so that they will persevere today and in the future.



James L. O'Brien
Superintendent-Director
GNB Voc-Tech Regional Vocational Technical School District
Annual Report for Calendar Year 2019
Submitted January 17, 2020

Se você precisar deste relatório em português, entre em contato com Helder Angelo pelo telefone (508)998-3321 ext. 678 ou helder.angelo@gnbvt.edu. Obrigado.

Si necesita este informe en español, comuníquese con Helder Angelo al (508)998-3321 ext. 678 o helder.angelo@gnbvt.edu. Gracias.