

Tioga County Development Corporation

eNews Insider



June 2009

Annual Report

Education Improvement Tax Credit Program

The **Tioga County Foundation**, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*, is an approved Educational Improvement Organization for the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program. This exciting program allows the business community to be directly involved with education within our local public school districts, Northern Tioga School District (NTSD), Southern Tioga School District (STSD), and Wellsboro Area School District (WASD). The EITC authorizes the award of Tax Credits to businesses that make contributions to scholarship organizations and/or educational improvement organizations contained on a list published by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). A "contribution" from a company is a donation of cash, personal property or services.

The **Tioga County Foundation** annually allocates a portion of the EITC funds for assistance with School-to-Work and Career Development programs in public school districts of Tioga County. This year, the Tax Credit program has been a huge success. During the 2008-2009 school year, to date we have awarded 25 scholarships totaling \$36,856.00. We have leveraged \$72,557.31 from the applicants, for total projects cost of \$109,413.31. Some of the programs we have funded are: Certified Nursing Assistant through Penn College/North Campus; a CNC Machine for Southern Tioga School District; a Paint Booth for Ag Mechanics classes at Northern Tioga School District and Career Development Textbooks & Materials at Don Gill Elementary School in Wellsboro. These grants have been made possible through contributions from [Citizens & Northern Bank](#), [First Citizens National Bank](#) and [Wheeland Lumber Company](#).

2009 Board Meetings

Second Friday, 9:00 AM

- June 12, 2009
Board Work Session
- July 10, 2009
- No August Meeting
- September 11, 2009
Board Work Session
- October 9, 2009
- November 13, 2009
Board Work Session
- December 11, 2009

PLAN AHEAD.....

TCDC 16th Annual Meeting

Monday, July 27, 2009
Williamson High School
Northern Tioga School
District
33 JCT Cross Road
Tioga, PA 16946

TCDC's 2nd Annual

Meet Our Member Mixer

September 16, 2009
Seabrook House West
Church Street
Westfield, PA 16950

TCDC's 14th Annual Legislative Breakfast

Thursday, April 1, 2010
Historic Penn Wells Hotel
Wellsboro, PA 16901



Tioga County...a place to call home

EITC Events Held at Area Schools

STSD 4th & 5th Grade Ag Day

On Friday, April 24, 2009 the Blossburg and Mansfield Elementary School 4th & 5th Grade classes discovered the world of Agriculture.

Students had the opportunity to learn the various functions of planting a garden and how to preserve nature. Students were also introduced to farm safety and learned how maple syrup is made.

Some of the other events included a trip to Copp Hollow Homestead where participants made bluebird houses, learned how to catch fish and went on a nature walk that taught the kids about different kinds of plants. The field trip helped students understand how to “Live off the Land”



4th & 5th Grade Students explore gardening, farm safety and the process of making Maple Syrup.



Southern Tioga School District Career Fair

On Thursday, April 16, 2009 work and/or tools of their trade to share with the students. Mansfield High School’s gymnasium was the site of Southern Tioga School District’s annual Career Fair.

Students were busy exploring different careers and talking with professionals from throughout Tioga County.

The event is held for sophomores in the district’s three high schools and was partially funded by a grant from the *Tioga County Foundation*, the charitable arm of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*, through the PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program. The presenters, from careers such as food service, journalism, and environmental careers brought examples of their



Students at the Southern Tioga School District Career Fair explore different professions through hands-on activities and demonstrations.



Mansfield High School FBLA Makes History



Front L to R: Colleen Dempsey, Cody Jenkins, Meghan Hughes, Ramón Martí, Danielle Van Gheem, Cody Cole, Sara Gaballa. Back: L to R: Katelin Broughton, Pat Brennan, Ben Saylor, Mike Wilston, Ethan Wilston, Dinesh Ramasamy, Justine Johnston.

For the past seven years, Mansfield High School has an active Future Business Leaders of America program. This year, with grant funding from the *Tioga County Foundation* EITC Program, 28 students were able to attend the regional competition, 14 of those students advanced to state competition.

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is a national organization with over 225,000 members. This organization helps students to develop leadership skills, teach the values of community service, and helps to prepare students for careers.

Due to its' size, qualifying for national competition in Pennsylvania is a very competitive process. With over 13,000 members, Pennsylvania has one of the largest chapters in the United States, second to California. Only

those students placing in the top of their event qualify for the national competition. For the first time in the history of Mansfield High School's Program, the FBLA is proud to have four individuals that qualified for the National FBLA competition.

Four (4) students will be traveling to Anaheim, California from June 23– 28 to represent Mansfield as they compete against students from all over the US.

Those competing will be: Sara Gaballa in Electronic Career Portfolio. Sara's portfolio placed 2nd at the state competition and Ramon Martí, Ethan Wilston and Dinesh Ramasamy will be competing in Banking and Finance. Their team placed second at the state competition.

EITC Grant Recipient Testimonials

● *“The faculty and students are extremely grateful for the Tioga County Foundation's contributions to Williamson High School that will help us purchase new software for our Business Education and Product Design classrooms. This software allows us to stay up-to-date with the business community in order to prepare our students for the workforce or higher education. Due to the unstable economy it is difficult to secure funding for these necessary resources. Without your support we would be unable to provide these opportunities for our students. It is meaningful to know that local businesses, Citizens & Northern Bank and First Citizens National Bank support local school districts.”*

Diana Barnes
Principal, Williamson High School

● *“Through the generosity of the EITC program eight Wellsboro High School Culinary Arts students, four seniors and four juniors had the opportunity to visit Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island. Besides staying in the student managed hotel they dined in several student run restaurants and had individual meetings with admissions representatives. Three of our graduating seniors are currently enrolled in the University for this year's fall semester. Thank you for your support of our students pursuing careers in the Culinary Arts.”*

Joe Mercuri
Culinary Arts Teacher, Wellsboro High School

● *“There are so many opportunities for students to learn about careers and career pathways. Unfortunately, many times teachers come to administration with requests for field trips, supplies, equipment, or worthwhile opportunities that we just cannot afford. The EITC grants have certainly filled that gap between opportunities and the money to fund them. We are so thankful for the local businesses who contribute to the fund and to TCDC for their organization and oversight of the program.*

Sharon Miller
Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, STSD

For more information or
to apply for funding:
www.tcdc-pa.com/foundation

Materials & Equipment Purchased with EITC Grants

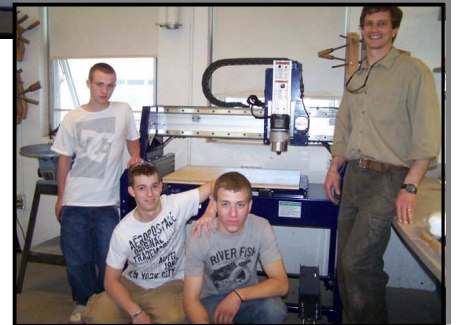
Liberty High School CNC Machine

CNC Machining is the future of Industry, and now students in the Liberty High School Industrial Arts Classes are able to experience this new technology first hand.

With help from an EITC Grant, Liberty High School (LHS) purchased an introductory Shopbot CNC Machine to help their students be competitive in the job market or help them be considered for placement in Higher Education. Knowledge of this machine and its workings will help give students an “edge up” on their competition. The CNC Machine purchased is a great introductory model into CNC Machining. Administration at LHS hopes the Shopbot machine will generate interest in the industry or engineering career fields.



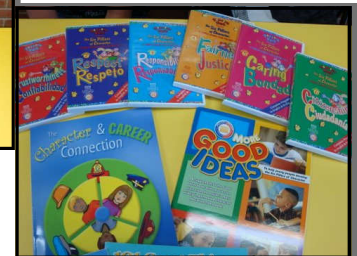
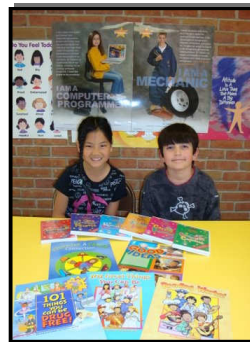
Students at Liberty High School work with their teacher on the newly purchased CNC Machine used for the Industrial Arts Curriculum



L to R: Students Dane Hopkins, Jon Davis, Cody Holly and Mitchell Stetter, Industrial Arts Teacher

Don Gill Elementary School Career Curriculum

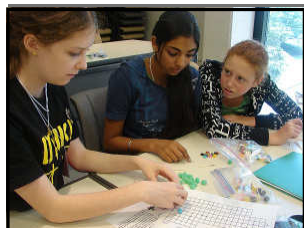
In May 2009 the Don Gill Elementary School in Wellsboro, PA purchased Career Development Instructional Materials for their 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade classrooms. These Instructional textbooks, videos and resource materials will be utilized in all classrooms to promote and develop student interest in real-life careers at an early age. This curriculum and the materials linked with it correlates closely with the Pennsylvania Career Education and Work Standards for Effective Practices.



Mansfield University Gifted Camps



Students at Mansfield University's Gifted Camp discover new career interests by creative hands on activities.



With funding from the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program, Mansfield University was able to offer 7 partial scholarships to students within the 3 public school districts that will be attending the Gifted Camps.

The Camp for Gifted, Talented, & Creative children is a summer residential camp currently in its 30th year! The camp provides children with the opportunity to explore new

interests and learn new life skills while making new friends. Students select and participate in fun, educational, and career development activities throughout the week as well as create, direct, and produce a play for their friends and family at the end of the week.

Many children determine their favorite school subject or future career path at MU's Gifted Camp!

These grants have been made possible through contributions from:
Citizens & Northern Bank; First Citizens National Bank and Wheeland Lumber Company



Materials & Equipment Purchased with EITC Grants

Northern Tioga School District Software Grants

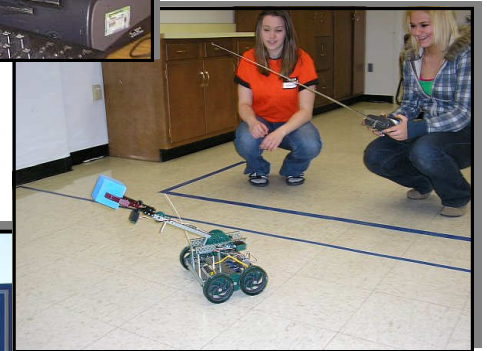
Through the EITC Program, the Northern Tioga School District currently updated two of its computer labs to help ensure students are learning and working on the most updated software packages.

The business lab at Williamson High School updated 25 computers to Microsoft Office 2007. This update enables the Business Education classes to be in sync with the rest of Business Community.

Williamson High School updated computer software in their Product Development, Design and Illustration classes. The software packages they purchased are used globally in the manufacturing industry. This will prepare students to enter the workforce of further their education using SolidWorks — three dimensional and two dimensional design software.

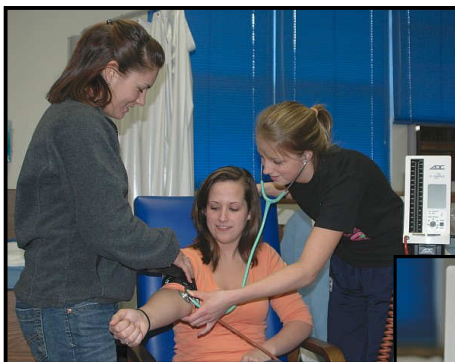
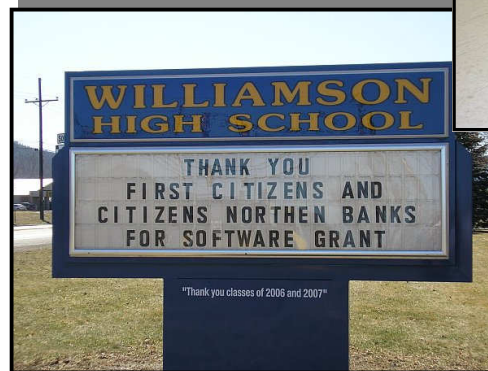


Northern Tioga School District was awarded two EITC Grants to help purchase updated software for CAD labs and Microsoft Labs.



For more information on the EITC Program click on:

www.tcdc-pa.com/foundation



Below: High School Students in the Certified Nursing Assistant Program at Penn College/ North Campus learn how to properly use a Automatic Digital Blood Pressure Monitor used in Hospitals and Nursing Homes



CNA Program Purchases Blood Pressure Monitor

The Pennsylvania College of Technology/North Campus, with help from an EITC Grant, was able to purchase an automatic blood pressure monitor to utilize during their High School CNA Nursing Program.

Brenda Abplanalp, Director of Outreach Services at North Campus, says “we purchased the blood pressure monitor because, even though we teach our nursing assistant students the standard method of taking a blood pressure, when they go to the clinical setting, they are often asked to utilize an automatic monitor. This way, they are better prepared for their first day of clinical at the Green Home.”

The automatic blood pressure monitor will be utilized for the CNA Program for many years.

Career Development Activity



As part of the EITC Program, staff of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* spend a portion of their time developing and implementing innovative programs that promote educational Career Development within the three public school districts. Staff Members serve on boards and committees that help coordinate career activity for students.

For example some of the programs *TCDC* has helped develop over the past year is the Health Career Day at Penn College/North Campus in Wellsboro. During Health Career Day approximately 200 students from Northern Tioga, Southern Tioga and Wellsboro School Districts explored careers in Emergency Medical Services, Nursing, Direct Care Workers, Laboratory Services, Medical Records, Physical Therapy, Occupational

Therapy, Pharmacy, Optometry, Social Services, Physician Assistant, and Chiropractic Care at the Health Career Fair held at Penn College's North Campus in Wellsboro.

Health Careers Week is an annual event created to generate interest among youth in pursuing one of Pennsylvania's exciting health care careers that offer rewarding benefits such as competitive pay and opportunity for advancement.

TCDC also is an active member of the Northern Tioga School District Vocational Advisory Committee. The purpose of this committee is to strengthen career and technical education programs in the Northern Tioga School District. The committee is made aware of the district's approved vocational offerings and supports the activities that fund the programs. *TCDC* helps streamline funds into these programs through EITC funds.



Health Career Day was held on November 8, 2008

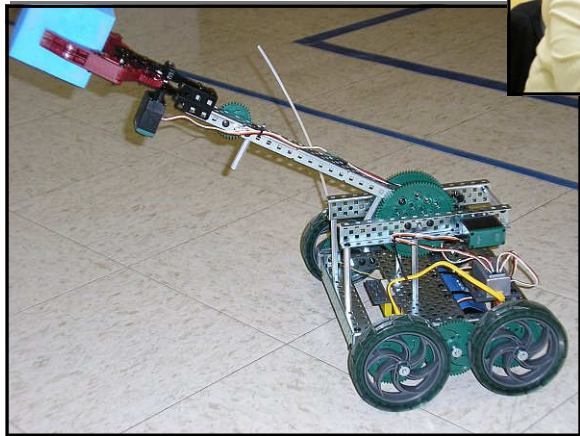
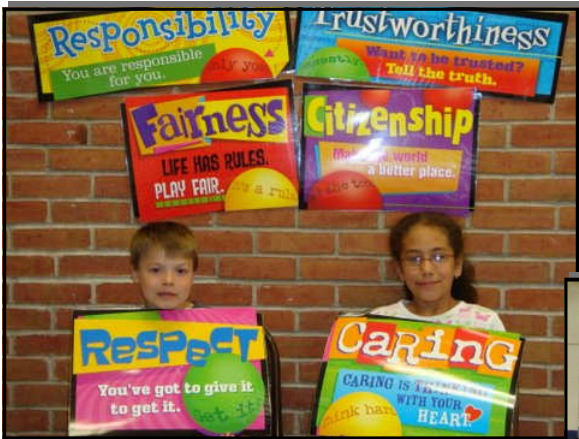
EITC Snapshots



These grants have been made possible through contributions from:
Citizens & Northern Bank; First Citizens National Bank and Wheeland Lumber Company



EITC Event Snapshots



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If Your Business Would Like to Contribute.... June 30, 2009 is the Application Deadline!!

Objectives & General Information

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED) Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) is designed to award tax credits to businesses who donate money, equipment and/or services to our public school districts through local Educational Improvement Organizations.

As an Educational Improvement Organization, the **Tioga County Foundation** is pleased to help businesses learn more about this opportunity in assisting our local public school districts build and expand their School-to-Work and Career Development programs. The **Tioga County Foundation** is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation for the **Tioga County Development Corporation**.

Business Eligibility Guidelines

Eligible businesses include those authorized to do business in Pennsylvania who are subject to one or more of the following state taxes: Corporate Net Income Tax; Capital Stock Franchise Tax, Bank and Trust Company Shares Tax; Title Insurance Companies Shares Tax; Insurance Premiums Tax; or Mutual Thrift Institution Tax. You can keep your taxes locally to support programs in our public schools.

The tax credit contributions for Tioga County can be used for:

- School-to-Work Programs
- Career Development Programs

Why we need you:

- With the help of our businesses we can further assist our local public school districts with funding, equipment and resources that would otherwise be unavailable.

What's in it for you:

- Tax credits for your business. Tax credits may be applied against the tax liability of a business for the tax year in which the contribution was made.
- As long as you are already paying state taxes, why not let your business make a direct impact on the development of our local students and future workforce?

How to get involved:

- Contact Christie Blackwell at the **Tioga County Development Corporation** office at 114 Main Street, Wellsboro, PA 16901 or call us at (570) 723-8232.
- Visit DCED's website at www.newpa.com and search for EITC for more about the program.