



NORTH MONTCO TECHNICAL CAREER CENTER STUDENT SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT: MARK A. AND CAES HONEYWELL

Recently, Mark Ault, a Mechatronics student at North Montco, accepted an official offer from CAES Honeywell to join their team as a Production Test Technician — all while participating in NMTCC's Cooperative Education program.

Representatives from the company visited NMTCC to present the offer and host a celebratory "signing day," marking a proud moment for Mark and for our school community. The moment was historic as well — Mark became the first person under 18 the company has ever hired!

Mark's journey began when a CAES Honeywell team member toured the school and Mechatronics classroom. He later impressed additional representatives at their career fair with his strong interest and understanding of the material taught in his Mechatronics class at NMTCC.

Industry Partners Gain Prepared, Motivated Young Talent

Co-op Coordinator Ed Trbuza helps businesses understand the advantages of hiring young, well-prepared technical students. He explains:

"Co-op gives students a real feel for what it means to work in a professional environment. These experiences help students mature beyond their peers and make clear connections between what they are learning now and how it applies to their future careers."

Students must be enrolled in a certified Career and Technical Education program to participate in most work-based opportunities. Occasionally, the experience may help a student discover that another position—or even another career field—may be a better fit, which Mr. Trbuza describes as a valuable and healthy part of the learning process.

Currently, 86 students are employed across NMTCC's Program for Youth Advancement through Applied Practice



(PYA²P) and Co-op placements, with nine additional students completing other internships. These numbers grow each month as more businesses recognize the value of partnering with North Montco.

How the North Montco Education Foundation Strengthens These Pathways

Our Education Foundation plays a vital role in expanding access to these transformative opportunities. Through generous support from parents, alumni, and local partners, the Foundation helps:

- Fund equipment and technology upgrades
- Provide student scholarships and tools for work
- Support industry certifications
- Enhance career-readiness experiences

These investments ensure that students enter the workforce prepared, confident, and competitive — benefiting both our young professionals and the businesses that hire them.

Partner With Us — For Students, For Businesses, For Our Community

If you are a parent eager to support your student's career path, or a business interested in hosting a talented, motivated young worker, we invite you to connect with us.

To learn more about our School-to-Work programs or Education Foundation, please contact: Ed Trbuza, Co-op / PYAAP Coordinator, (215) 368-1177 (ext: 130), etrbuza@nmtcc.org; or Denise Collins, Acting Executive Director, Education Foundation, (215) 368-1177 (ext: 303), dcollins@nmtcc.org.

GRCA ROUNDUP

GREATER READING CHAMBER ALLIANCE

GRCA

GREATER READING Chamber Alliance

- 606 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601
- 610.376.6766 • fax 610.376.4135
- info@greaterreading.org
- www.greaterreading.org

Our mission is to be Berks County's leading unified resource for building a healthy, competitive business community. Our vision is to assist companies to retain, expand and grow their operations and employment and attract new businesses to berks County.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Intermediate Excel

Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26
from 8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Shearer Technical Computer Consultants
727 Penn Ave., West Reading
\$400/person- GRCA Members;
\$495/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/interexcel

Intro to Excel

Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27
from 8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Shearer Technical Computer Consultants
727 Penn Ave., West Reading
\$400/person- GRCA Members;
\$495/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/introexcel

Lead Worker Certificate Program*

Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 23, March 2, 9, 16 and 23
from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$690/person- GRCA Members;
\$860/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/leadworker2026

Supervisor Training Module 1: Principles of Supervision*

Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10 and 17
from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$695/person- GRCA Members;
\$860/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/2026supermod1

Supervisor Training Module 3: Leveraging Workplace Relationships for Organizational Success*

Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11 and 18
from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$695/person- GRCA Members;
\$860/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/2026supermod3

Essentials of Effective Leadership Part 1*

Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4 and 11
from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$695/person- GRCA Members;
\$860/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/leadership1

Advanced Excel

Jan. 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5
from 8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Shearer Technical Computer Consultants
727 Penn Ave., West Reading
\$400/person- GRCA Members;
\$495/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/advancedexcel

Emotional Intelligence in the Workplace*

Jan. 15, 22 from 9 a.m.-noon
Center for Business Excellence

49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$395/person- GRCA Members;
\$495/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/emotional2026

Berks Women2Women: The Power of Saying No

Jan. 15 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

West Reading Motor Club
416 Penn Ave., West Reading
\$40/person- GRCA Members;
\$50/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/sayingno

Human Resources & Benefits Roundtable

Jan. 15, March 19, April 30, June 25 and Sept. 24 and Nov. 19 from Noon-1:30 p.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$325/person for GRCA Members for 4 sessions
\$395/person for Future GRCA Members for 4 sessions
\$365/person for GRCA Members for all 6 sessions
\$445/person for Future GRCA Members for all 6 sessions

Lunch included.

Register at Greaterreading.org/HR2026

Lessons in Leadership: Excellence in Execution

Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20
from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$1,500/person- GRCA Members;
\$1,750/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/winterleadership

Workplace Public Speaking & Presentation Skills Program

Jan. 16, 23 from 9 a.m.-noon

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$395/person- GRCA Members;
\$495/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/publicspeaking

GRCA Executive Leadership Academy: Mastering Transformational Change To Drive High Performance

Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12 and 19
from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Dr., Wyomissing
\$1,495/person- GRCA Members;
\$1,895/person- Future GRCA Members
Register at Greaterreading.org/ELAperformance

Membership Matters Webinar

Jan. 26 from 2 p.m.-3 p.m. via Zoom

Free for GRCA members & prospective members
Register at Greaterreading.org/membershipmatters

*WEDnet eligible