

CLINTON TWP.

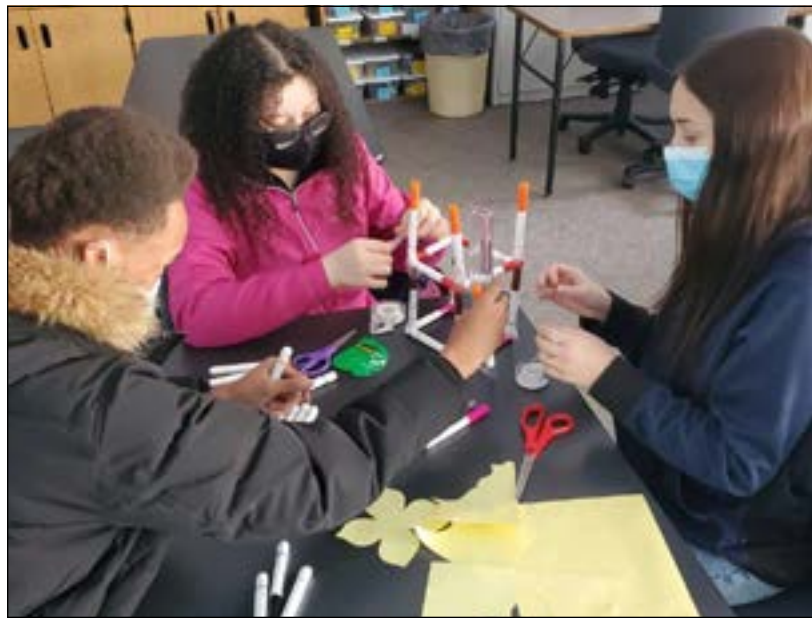
## Developing a win-win focus in young Clintondale entrepreneurs

By **Quenton Potts Jr. and Hadassah Monkoy**  
"Voice of the Dragon" reporters

The Youth Entrepreneur Class at Clintondale is all about providing a way for students to be creative and think about their post-secondary life outside of high school. This class not only teaches the students about learning new life skills such as communication, time-management, and working with others but also teaches students to always follow their dreams. Their teacher is Kim Spriggs, who has been working at Clintondale High School for twenty years. She really enjoys seeing her students grow not only academically but becoming better people as a whole.

The YE class includes many projects that are intended to equip students with the values and vision to pursue their dreams. According to Ms. Spriggs, "We focus on the application of an idea - an idea students can own as this course explores what it takes to become an entrepreneur and be your own boss. This course focuses on changing the mindsets of young people, so they believe in themselves and what they can accomplish while instilling entrepreneurial and economic principles built for success as students create their own business plan."

We observed the class as they worked on the Tower Project, which showed the students that they need to work together and also to take risks. For this project, students were divided into groups and given specific materials such as papers, scissors, pipe cleaners, tape, and markers. The point of the assignments was to build the tallest, prettiest, and most structured building they could in 30 minutes, all while working collaboratively as a class to maximize the average tower height for all groups. The students were able to trade their materials to other groups to get the necessities that they needed to help them build.



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After the assignment, we interviewed a few students and asked them questions about how they did and what they got out of their assignment.

Q: What is the Youth Entrepreneurs Class about?  
Christina Kramer (Senior): It is about teaching us, young entrepreneurs the right qualities to be successful.

Q: What did you guys get from this activity?  
Taylor Jones (Senior): "It was a nice experience and it got everyone the chance to express themselves and their creativity. It was a challenge and everyone tried and gave effort."

Q: What challenges did you guys face during the competition?  
Alex Wiggert (Sophomore): "The challenges were the base and the materials, we had no source of binding. Mainly trying to think of ways to alternate, trying to think outside the box."

Q: How does the Young Entrepreneurs Class help a student?  
Zack Knoellinger (Senior): "It helps them with communication skills and how to work together."

The students reported that through this project and others in the course, they learned "Teamwork, communication skills, and time management." Ms. Spriggs also said that the course teaches students about the economy and how to develop an entrepreneurial mindset while developing soft skills such as communication of ideas and teaching foundational values of "win-win" focus, opportunities, knowledge, and passion.

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## Dragon showcase recipe showdown

By **Leondra Ashford, Latisha Chamble and Alayjah Walker**  
"Voice of the Dragon" reporters

Everybody likes to eat dessert, but do you know all the hard work that goes into making it? Students in Mrs. Downs' Showcase Recipe Showdown class are learning hands-on how to make the best desserts around. We interviewed Mrs. Downs and a few of her students went deeper about the program.

Mrs. Downs says "[She] also wanted to teach a restaurant class but [she] wanted to teach a cooking and baking class to go over the basics." She says "I have a history in business so I wanted to teach how different foods were run and how to manage a restaurant."

Mrs. Downs explained further about the program: throughout the semester, students will manipulate existing recipes to create their own new and original recipes. They will be expected to create original dishes from a variety of given ingredients. They will compete with each other both head-to-head, and in groups creating recipes that we will video and share for grading, and for use on our social media sites. This class is for those willing to experiment with recipes, and taste new combinations!

We asked Mrs. Downs what was her favorite thing she had her students make, which was General Tso's Chicken, and what other dishes she would like her students to make which she responded by saying for



In the Recipe Showdown class, students manipulate existing recipes to create their own new and original recipes

St Patrick's day, they'll be making Corned Beef and cabbage, while next week her baking class will be making cakes and cheesecakes.

We also interviewed three of the 12th-grade students with some questions about how they feel about the program. The first person we interviewed was Alaynah Walker. Alaynah chose this class because she thought she would enjoy the class and she wants to learn more about baking. Her favorite dish she made so far was the soufflé but she looks forward to making a strawberry cheesecake or an oreo cheesecake. Alaynah enjoys the class but "sometimes finds it difficult when she has to do online assignments."

The second person we interviewed was Chania Johnson. Chania is in the class to learn how to make new dishes that she doesn't know how to make or hasn't heard about. Chania likes the class because she says it's fun to make new things that she isn't used to, while being in the class helps her achieve the process of making new things and sharing them with others. One of the dishes Chania loved making was the Berry Turnovers. She had chosen this dish because she had to choose between apple and berry; while she isn't a big fan of apple, she'd rather do berries because it interested her. While being in the class, Chania doesn't have a preferred dish she'd like to make, she stated, "I'd love to make anything and everything."

The final person we interviewed was Mark Appell. Mark chose this class so that he can make foods because he likes to cook and he likes to bake and taste new foods. Mark is in the class to learn how to bake foods and try new dishes. One of the dishes Mark likes making is breakfast foods or eggs and bacon. He chooses to make certain dishes because he likes to make desserts so that he can make something and eat it. Something that Mark wants to achieve while in this class is to learn more recipes and bake exotic foods. A preferred dish that Mark wants to make is creme Brulee or an ice cream cake.

With this many expert bakers in the school, there is no shortage of sweet treats here at Clintondale.

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The Digital Media program is designed to educate students with hands-on experience.

## Expanding the Digital Media program at CHS

By **Earl Blanchett, Nyeya Howard, JaShon Jackson and Ruby Washington**  
"Voice of the Dragon" reporters

Clintondale High School's Digital Media program is a way for students to be exposed to the world of digital communication this program allows students to learn, work together, and communicate through all online platforms.

The Digital Media program is designed to educate students with hands-on experience. Over time, a single media class grew into multiple online media-based classes. These classes include Audio Recording, Podcasting, and Sportscasting & Interviewing, Introduction to Cinematography & Film Editing, Media Production, and Digital Media.

One of the new classes at Clintondale High School this year is Podcasting with Paul Moro. We interviewed Mr. Moro, starting by asking how long he has been teaching the podcasting class. He said, "I started in 2018 at Clintondale, so I'm kind of a new teacher here. I always had an audio and video class and this year I have the podcasting class." With a strong audio and video program already established, Clintondale decided to focus on the elements of audio production separately, resulting in separate courses like Podcasting and Sportscasting.

We then asked Mr. Moro how the podcasting program works. His response was that students start with Intro to Audio before moving into the podcasting courses. Next is Podcasting 1 which focuses on

the power of audio storytelling, teaching students to understand the podcast medium as an intimate form of storytelling. Students will learn the essentials of quality sound and podcast production, understand the role of ethics and diversity in podcasting, improve broadcast skills, including writing, research, interviews, editing and on-air presentation as well as appraise and establish protocols to launch and distribute podcasts. Moro also said that for students in Podcasting 1, "by learning about audio, you start by doing your own personal podcast."

The final and most advanced class is Podcasting 2, which uses the power of podcasting to benefit ourselves and society. Through this course, students will learn to produce documentary-style audio stories highlighted on our own Dragon Podcast. They will be encouraged to develop their own personal voice and style, while also learning practical skills necessary for finding work in both radio and podcasting. Mr. Moro told us, "[Podcasting 2] students are going to work on the school's podcasting, where we talk about events and interview students and staff"

Our final question was whether you have to have any college experience to do this job. According to Mr. Moro, you do not necessarily need to go to college to go into podcasting. "It's a lot of long hours, you have to be flexible, but it's not one of those jobs where you need a college degree. It's more about your technical skills and work ethic."

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For more information about the MISD and the 21 school districts, go to [www.misd.net](http://www.misd.net)

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