

BHS business classes open students' minds to broader horizons

Tony Mirabitor
Argus Editor

Job classes here at BHS are taught by both Peter O'Neil who teaches Entrepreneurship, Sports Marketing, and accounting along with Michelle Costa who teaches Web Design and Programming.

"Job classes give students a basic introduction to the business world," O'Neil said.

Along with the idea of introducing the students to the quote on quote wonderful world of buying and selling goods, these classes actually teach you some pretty invaluable things such as how to start up your own business, or designing a webpage or program that other people can use.

On the other side of things some students come out of these classes with more newfound knowledge then they would have thought first time going into these classes, for example a former student named Jim Tubbie, is co owner of the restaurant the pound, in downtown Brighton.

"It opens your mind up for starting your own business," Junior Matt London said

Along with that, the job classes teach kids a variety of things, such as how to create a business plan,

or how to financially structure your business using ethics which are rules students businesses follow.

The web design and program classes teach students how to create a functioning website or make a working program such as a tip calculator or clock. These classes help students build off of their technology to teach us to effectively use them to our advantage.

"The digital media helps students to be informed about the online and digital aspects of a program," Web design and Programming teacher, Michelle Costa said.

While these classes aren't the most interesting they do really teach you things for students futures, and it would not be wise to skip them over. These classes can teach you so much as you can really walk in with no knowledge of that sort while maybe gaining some more knowledge on what you want to do when you are older or maybe you figure out how to do something you never knew how to do before. Another good thing about these classes is that they serve as a fourth year math credit, and these classes are really not that hard if you honestly try in them. Some may even say that these classes are the most important classes you can take in highschool.

Brighton High School senior Megan Dunaski, studying abroad in Brazil

Camila Dos Santos
Staff Reporter

Traveling abroad, meeting new people, learning a new language, getting adapted to different habits, traditions, culture and especially getting out of your comfort zone are some of the main reasons people decide to join and travel through the foriegn exchange programs offered by schools all around the world.

Megan Dunaski, a senior in Brighton High School decided to live this experience when she was a sophomore in high school, she wanted to travel and thought that being an exchange student could turn out to be a good idea.

Sponsored by the Brighton Rotary Club, Dunaski left the United States in October of 2013 to spend her senior year in Brazil, a country in South America.

"I've know Megan since 8th grade and when she decided to go on exchange I felt happy for her because she can experience a new culture and learn a new language but I was sad because she would be away from me," senior Chelsea Bielicki said.

In the interview, done in Portuguese and translated to English, Dunaski's first host mother, Daniela Giacometti, said how she appreciated having an exchange student living in the family.

"We hosted Megan in our house and we opened not only our home but also our hearts to her, it was an amazing experience. Today, even if she is no longer living with us, she is considered a part of our family as if she was our daughter, we've learned

how to admire and love her. She is 'our Megan,'" Giacometti said.

Giacometti also mentioned that hosting Dunaski was a unique experience and every kid should have the opportunity of going on exchange because she believes that it not only allows you to know a different culture but it provides maturation and independence.

During the Rotary exchange program, students usually change their host families throughout the year in order to obtain the most different experiences possible.

Dunaski is now with her second host family and she is completing almost 6 months living in Brazil.

"I could never regret going on exchange. I only regret not doing it sooner. As people say, 'It's not a year in your life, but a life in a year,'" Dunaski said.

Dunaski said that at the same time everything is different it all feels normal and natural to her.

Some differences she has noticed since she got there are that instead of having one big school there are many smaller ones, how people greet and say goodbye with kisses, how homes are closer and you can walk to the store if you need to, and how the weather is always so warm.

"The weather here is amazing, except when it gets in the 100s because that's when I just sit in front of a fan," Dunaski said.

Dunaski's exchange year ends around August of 2014 and that is when she is returning to the United States.

"I would recommend doing exchange for everyone. There is so much to be lived, and exchange lets you live it, it lets you experience something more," Dunaski said.



Baby Carroll



Baby Armstrong



Baby Hratchian

BHS staff make for proud parents during 2013-2014 school year

Thomas Wright
Staff Reporter

Learning how to balance life as a parent and life as a teacher can be difficult, but Brighton High School Staff members Emily Hratchian, Kelly Armstrong, Matt Jourden and Stephanie Carroll are a few of the most recent teachers to begin families in most recent time.

"I am still new at having a family while working. With my wife being a stay at home mom she will be taking care of Henry, while I work. BAS is wonderful in that our school district is very family orientated, so I can take a day off when I need help to be with him and help my wife out," Jourden said.

The FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) allows teachers and school staff that are having or adopting chil-

dren twelve workweeks of maternity leave, allowing plenty of time to be with their child at the beginning stages of parenting. Though not all teachers plan, some recognize the difficulty of being a teacher at the same time and take precautionary steps to insure the best transition.

"I got my Master's degree and established myself as a teacher. I put my career first and I know that not everyone can do that, but our generation seems to be waiting until they are older in general before having children," Carroll said.

She is currently pregnant with her first child at 32 years old.

Though it is a challenge to multitask as a parent and teacher, everyone is excited. Being a teacher with an infant raises many questions such as who will take care of it when you return to work.

"My husband does the "morning shift" with the kids, and we have

a part-time caregiver that comes three times a week until I get home. Twice a week, I am fortunate to have my mom (who retired in October) take care of my kids that are still home," Armstrong said.

Some teachers will use a day care service. Some have time to adjust over summer vacation, but when fall comes and the new school year begins, they will have to learn time management all over again. The positive attitude of these teachers and staff is apparent and all are ready for the challenge.

"Balance is going to be difficult, but being a parent will lead me to be a better teacher," Carroll said.

BHS is very fortunate to have such privileges from the FMLA that are available for anyone to use. It's great that so many people are able to raise families without their career getting in the way.



Junior Emma Meyers helps keep the school green.

Photo by Monica Weston

Green Group honors Earth Day; helps to save earth one plastic bottle at a time

Cameron Tripp
Staff Reporter

In the land of Brighton, Michigan there is a school, and in that school a war is being waged. Not a war of bloodshed and violence no, a war that fights to ensure the environment's protection and longevity. Green Group was formed in 2006 by students to help promote environmental awareness and is comprised of many students willing to make a difference in the community.

The Green Group is shadowed by teacher Colleen Buchanan who is known for being an avid supporter for the environment. The group is run by co-presidents Molly Moline and Brianna Meyer. Most of the group joined because they wish to help improve the community and they had siblings who attended

Green Group in the past.

"It gives us all a time to hang out with friends," said Meyer.

The group meets Friday after school to clean out the all of the recycle bins that they commission to be placed in the school, and they take all of those bottles and return them at supermarkets for profit that they in turn use to help fund their club's activities.

"One week we just take care of the bottles in the green bins that are in the school, then the next Friday we do the bottles and the blue paper bins," Meyer said.

The group is looking forward to Earth Day where traditions such as Black Out Day will be making a comeback. This year also includes new Green Week plans involving a clean up effort for Leith Lake, and a tap water contest where students

will taste test water and determine if the water comes from a bottle or if it comes from the tap. They also have raised money for a program that will help build water wells in an African village plus they hope to adopt/sponsor an animal that is near extinction.

"It means people care for the environment," Moline said.

Green Group encourages people in the Brighton community to do their part in taking care of the community. These include using reusable water bottles rather than plastics, and using a hand dryers instead of paper towels. They also encourage others to join the group in order to help the school whether it be as a permanent member or as a one timer, anyone is welcome. Green Group meets Friday right after school in Buchanan's room.