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Northeast Ohio's First High School Machining Apprenticeship Launches

Cleveland, OH, November 15, 2017 – Max Hayes High School in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District announced today the first Northeast Ohio High School Apprenticeship in Computer Numeric Control Machining.

The plan is a response to a skills and talent gap in the region's metalworking industry which includes machining, tool and die making, metal forming and other related sectors. The plan also dovetails with WIRE-Net's Apprenticeship Consortium, which WIRE-Net has organized to encourage more manufacturing firms to adopt apprenticeships as a highly customizable way for firms to develop their future workforce. "Many of the firms with which we are developing apprenticeships in CNC machining do not have internal candidates for the apprenticeship, so getting more precision and CNC machining programs in the region to train high school pre-apprentices makes sense," said Michael Hoag, WIRE-Net's Vice President for Workforce Programs.

Brianna Schultz, Director of Youth Programs at WIRE-Net said that students with good grades and attendance in the CNC pathway can sharpen their technical and professional skills through this experience.

David Neylon, CNC Machining Faculty at Max S. Hayes High School, has been working with the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) to ensure that graduates of the program can graduate with industry recognized credentials that meet newly developed graduation requirements in Ohio. "Participants will earn industry-recognized credentials (NIMS), improve their leadership skills, and gain work experience through this program," Neylon said.

Max Hayes Principal Christopher Scarcella noted that Max Hayes has prior experience developing pre-apprentice programs, having established one in the Building and Construction pathway, working with the Cleveland Building Trades Council, the City of Cleveland, and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. "The Building Trades apprenticeship was launched in 2016," Scarcella said, "CMSD CEO Eric Gordon worked for years to establish the trust and relations with the Council and to strengthen staffing at Max Hayes to support the program," he continued, "we plan to do the same with this CNC apprenticeship.

Neylon said that approximately 8 juniors were eligible to apply for the pre-apprenticeship and that upon graduation/completion of the program, students will be more prepared and marketable to apprenticeships, colleges, and companies – giving them greater potential to earn a salary and a degree at the same time. All eight juniors attending the roll-out indicated interest in applying for the High School Apprenticeship.

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About WIRE-Net: WIRE-Net is a non-profit, manufacturing-based, economic development organization that provides services to manufacturing leaders to strengthen their businesses, create healthy communities and fuel economic growth. WIRE-Net has 350 members that employ over 20,000 people across greater Cleveland.

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