

CTE SUCCESS STORIES

It's Working!

cte
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CLARE-GLADWIN RESD

HIS OWN DRUMMER: Joey Kronewitter

(Note: In recognition of the vital role vocational education plays in our schools and communities, this is one in a series of stories of success achieved by local students who participated in the Career & Technical Education program through the Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District.)

Joey Kronewitter makes no bones about it: He signed up for the Clare-Gladwin Career & Technical Education's Culinary Arts class for unusual reasons. But it's what the 2014 Clare High School graduate absorbed anyway in CTE that caught him off-guard. **In short, he learned a lot about accounting in a cooking class.**

"Honestly, a buddy of mine thought it would be a fun idea to take Culinary Arts," Kronewitter recalled. "We thought that cooking and baking instead of writing papers would substitute well. I hoped to get out of math and English to do something a little more sporadic."

Kronewitter discovered that life in Heidi Rocha's Culinary Arts classroom offered a completely different kind of learning, one that appealed to him immediately. Now he's an accounting major/ministry team drummer at Olivet Nazarene University in Illinois.

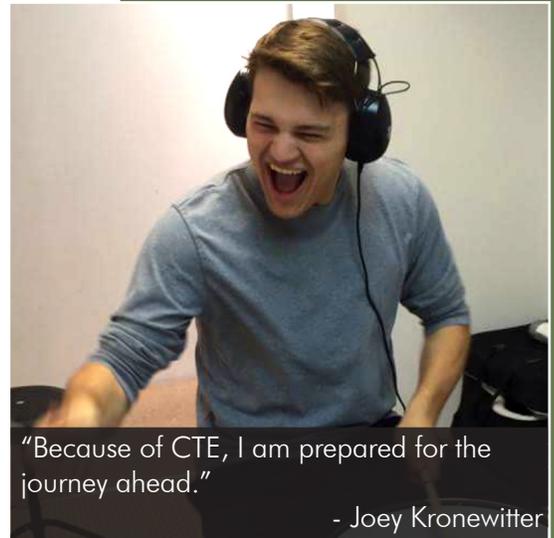
"It didn't specifically help lead me to my career choice," Kronewitter said. "However, **almost all of the work in my CTE class was hands-on. This was an amazing**

way to prepare me for college. CTE wasn't just, 'Sit down and do work' – it was interactive and communicative."

Today, Kronewitter uses the principles applied in CTE – hands-on, real-world soft skills – as he works toward a degree in a field that has very little to do with his actual CTE class. And that's the less tangible, hard-to-define benefit of the CTE learning environment. But instructors have seen that phenomenon enough times to believe in it.

"Most of my accounting classes are labs," Kronewitter said. "These are hands-on work, where we are working with others, discussing and comparing financial statements and records. **I was prepared for the discussion and relational aspect of accounting because of the experience in Culinary.** This is how we are going to learn in the workforce. After college, our continued education will not be limited to memorizing a chapter of a book to later take an exam; **it will be an interactive learning environment where we gain knowledge by observing and listening."**

Kronewitter's positive CTE experience – **"Because of CTE, I am prepared**



"Because of CTE, I am prepared for the journey ahead."

- Joey Kronewitter

"Because of the CTE program, I had the chance to experience the true setting of a classroom."

- Dominic Lake

"Because of CTE, I am where I am in life. It helped me succeed in life."

- Bailey Rose

"Because of CTE, I was able to make the most out of my time at high school and get a head start on my college and career path."

- Chris Buzzelli

"Because of the CTE program, I got a huge head start in my college career."

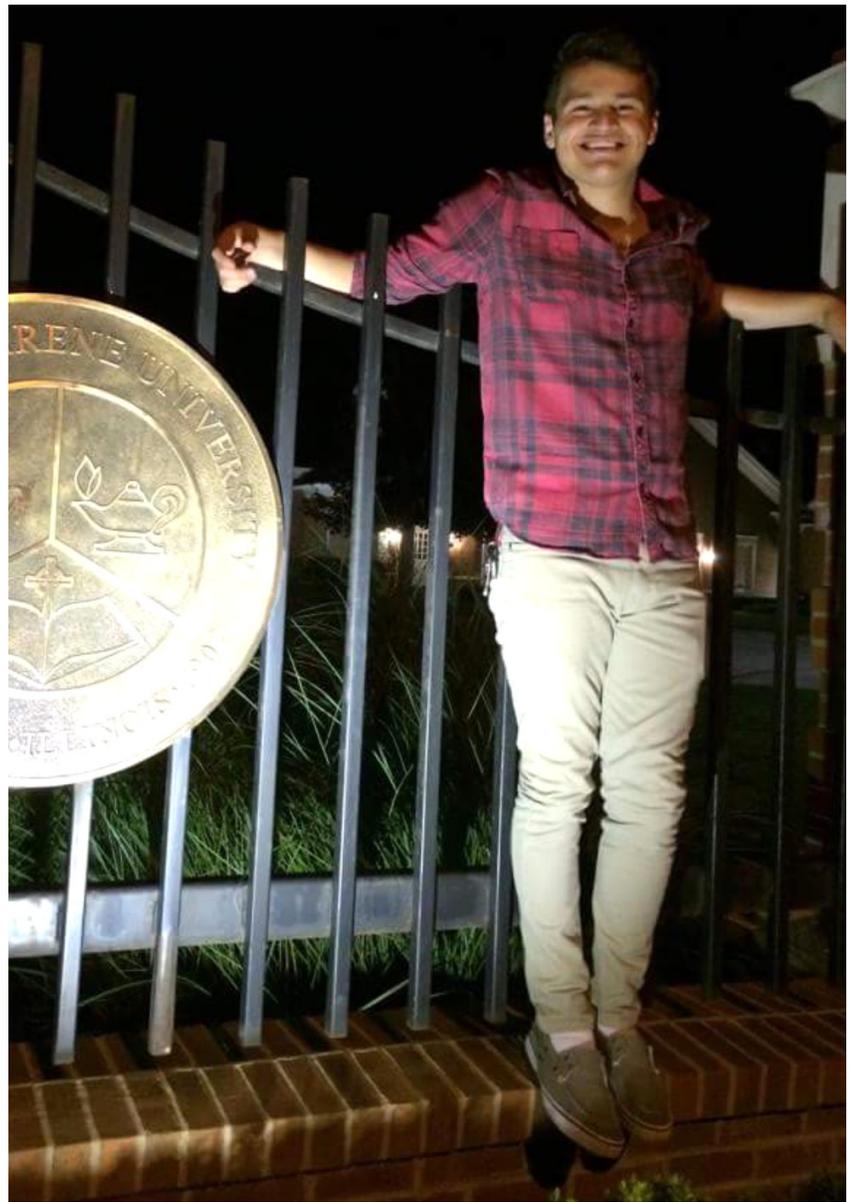
- Haley Forbes

"Because of CTE, I became a doctor. Because of CTE, I am helping families."

- Dr. Cory St. Denis

for the journey ahead," he noted – included a high level of respect for his instructor, Rocha, who exerted a positive influence that he still feels today.

"Heck, yes!" he said. "Mrs. Rocha was the bomb. She was the perfect mix of professional and interactive fun. The work didn't feel like the work we were used to. She made the classroom her own, and we all felt like we played our part."



OVERHEARD

What the Friends of CTE have to say:

"A CTE Millage will help build high quality Career Technical Education programs for students in Clare and Gladwin Counties. I have seen firsthand what a millage can do to build programs in Gratiot and Isabella Counties. The students of Clare Gladwin deserve this opportunity as well."

— Claire Bunker

"CTE is a wonderful program helping so many students across a wide variety of fields. It is a wonderful way for students to get some real life experience to help them determine what they want to do with their lives beyond high school. It is also a wonderful way to provide a service to our community."

— Paula Austin

"My son is involved with this program and loves the construction trades! The instructors are great and great with the students. It absolutely lets them delve into an area of interest before making a career choice. What a great program!"

— Amy Gillespie

"Promoting CTE is essential. Students with vocational skills ultimately contribute years of economic growth and stability to our communities."

— Susan Wooden

"The CTE programs are so beneficial. CTE makes a big difference for those students who need a more hands-on approach to learning. It provides opportunities for all students to succeed. I am a proud supporter of the CTE program."

— Jill Radosta

"These programs are a great opportunity for high school students to get a head start on a lifetime career. I have seen this work for hundreds of students."

— Janet Roberts

"In 2013, the CTE Construction Program partnered with Hope in Harrison to remodel our building. Without them, we wouldn't have been able to make that happen! The kids were amazing and our new building looks great."

— Laura Gardella - Executive Director

We're looking for a few good friends.



Join the Friends of CTE today!

CTEitsworking.com