



January 2026

Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Aaron Barnett

North Royalton



Aaron Barnett is a student at North Royalton High School and is enrolled in CVCC's Power Equipment Technology (PET) program, instructed by Matthew Harding. Choosing the PET program was an easy decision for Aaron. He has always enjoyed hands-on work, especially working on engines, and hopes to pursue a career in diesel technology—specifically working on semi-trucks. His interest in the field was further inspired by his older brother, who graduated from the PET program two years ago and now works at the North Royalton bus garage.

"Aaron is quickly distinguishing himself as an exceptional student. By the second day of class, he had already reviewed the SkillsUSA diesel competition standards and was asking thoughtful questions. He demonstrates strong mechanical aptitude and shows great potential for a future in the diesel or heavy equipment industry," said Mr. Harding.

One of Aaron's favorite experiences at CVCC so far was volunteering at Wreaths Across America in December alongside his classmates and instructor. He described the day as both enjoyable and rewarding. Aaron is also grateful for the change in learning environment at CVCC, noting that the hands-on instruction has helped him stay motivated, focus more easily, and gain valuable experience using tools and equipment. As he continues his time at CVCC, Aaron is eager to earn as many industry certifications as possible and learn everything he can to prepare for success after graduation.

Outside of school, Aaron works at Triag Truck Services in North Royalton and enjoys working on his car—whether that involves repairs, painting, or upgrades. His advice to students considering CVCC is, "The instructors here don't expect you to know much coming in, so if you're interested in a program, give it a try. Everyone is very welcoming and wants you to succeed." After graduating from high school, Aaron hopes to continue working at Triag Truck Services. Keep up the great work, Aaron!

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