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Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

John Walsh

Independence



John Walsh, a student at Independence High School, is enrolled in CVCC's Electrical Systems program under the instruction of Joe McNamee. John has always been interested in electrical work and enjoys figuring out how things work. After watching family friends help renovate his basement a few years ago, his interest in the trade grew even more. As a hands-on learner, attending CVCC felt like the perfect opportunity to explore the electrical field in a practical environment while preparing for a successful future. He was especially drawn to the strong career opportunities and job outlook within the trade. As a hands-on learner, attending CVCC felt like the perfect opportunity for John to explore the electrical field in a more practical environment while preparing for a successful future. He was especially interested in the strong job outlook and career opportunities available within the trade. Since joining the program, John has been thriving. "Mr. McNamee is so great — I love class," he said. "He teaches us the full scope of everything, not just the cookie-cutter stuff. He's real with us and teaches in a way that genuinely prepares us for successful careers and life in the trade."

This year, John also earned an impressive fourth-place finish at the Youngstown JATC SkillsUSA Regional Competition. During the rest of his time in the program, he is looking forward to continuing to expand his knowledge of the trade, participating in work-based learning next year, and studying to pass his electrical exam as he works toward becoming an apprentice electrician.

After graduation, John hopes to pursue a career as an electrical lineman through International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 38, with the long-term goal of becoming a storm-chasing lineman. "I love traveling, so being able to travel and be a lineman would be the best combination," John said. He also understands the dedication required to reach that goal and shared that he would be happy starting as an inside wireman while continuing to work toward his dream career.

Outside of academics, John is heavily involved in golf, playing for Independence High School and enjoying the sport in his free time as well. He also enjoys spending time with friends and being outdoors, which he describes as his favorite place to be. This year, John was also inducted into National Technical Honor Society at CVCC. When asked what advice he would give to students considering CVCC, John encouraged others to fully commit to the experience. "Attending CVCC is such a great and fun experience, but you're not going to be coddled here — you have to put in the work and want to be here. But if you do, you're going to get so much out of it." Keep up the amazing work, John! We can't wait to see where your electrical journey takes you next.

Written By: Makayla Robertson, CVCC Media Specialist



8001 Brecksville Rd.



www.cvccworks.edu



info@cvccworks.edu



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