

# NORTHERN VALLEY YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS

**Grades  
3-8**

**Marketplace for Kids**

**Grades  
3-6**

**Youth Entrepreneur  
Camp**

**Grade  
7**

**Manufacturing Day**

**Grade  
8**

**Explore NVCTC**

**Grade  
10**

**Northern Valley Career Expo**

**Grades  
11-12**

**Cooperative Work Experience**

## **PURPOSE:**

*Cultivate a new, innovative and highly skilled workforce and entrepreneurship pool by helping strengthen partnerships between the business community, schools, educators, students and parents. Exposing students to an array of entrepreneurship and career opportunities in the Northern Red River Valley to help retain population.*

## **OBJECTIVES:**

- Retain youth/millennials in our rural communities.
- Strengthen relationships between students, schools, local businesses and manufacturers.
- Expose youth in grades 3 through 12 to the wide variety of entrepreneurship and career opportunities available in rural northeastern ND.
- Increase awareness of early career exposure events and programs among parents, educators and community leaders.

# Marketplace for Kids (Grades 3-8)

Marketplace for Kids exposes students in grades three through eight to a broad range of careers.

Throughout the day, students attend five, 25-minute classes led by area business owners and community service providers. Sample classes include: Think Like an Architect, Write & Illustrate Your Own Book, Careers in Manufacturing, and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS).

The event rotates annually between Cavalier and Grafton. In 2018, more than 1,000 people participated in the fifth annual event which included 85 business projects presented by 5th grade student entrepreneurs at the Hall of Great Ideas Showcase.



# Youth Entrepreneur Camp (Grades 3-6)

Youth Entrepreneur Camp is a four-day summer camp for grades 3-6 held in Grafton and Cavalier. Young entrepreneurs become business owners and learn how to build a successful business. The students develop their own community and currency, run their own town and turn their great ideas into money making businesses. They also learn how to shoot commercials using iPads.



# Manufacturing Day (Grade 7)

The Pembina County JDA, Walsh County JDA and North Valley Career and Technology Center (NVCTC) joined forces to plan the first Youth Manufacturing Day (MFG DAY) event held in 2016. Manufacturing is one of the leading employers in both counties, providing more than 1,200 jobs. MFG DAY was implemented with the goal of helping change the perception of the manufacturing industry and inspire next-generation workers to pursue a career in modern manufacturing, while also retaining workforce in our rural communities.

MFG DAY is held annually in October. Up to 13 schools and more than 200 seventh grade students from Walsh, Pembina and northern Grand Forks Counties visit two manufacturing businesses. The students hear personal stories from young ambassadors who share their modern perspectives on the industry and how they have found great careers in manufacturing. Tours of the manufacturing facilities are also given.

Past and present participating manufacturing businesses from Walsh and Pembina Counties include American Crystal Sugar (Drayton), Bordertown Retail Systems (Neché), Food First (Walhalla), Harriston Industries (Minto), Kringstad Ironworks/Safe-T-Pull (Park River), Marvin Windows and Doors (Grafton), Midwest Fabrication (Grafton), Morgan Printing (Grafton), Motor Coach Industries (Pembina), Rimco (Neché) and Woodside Industries (Cavalier).





# Explore NVCTC (Grade 8)

Explore NVCTC (North Valley Career and Technology Center) was initiated in 2015 and exposes 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to career and technology courses and educates them about the direct application and skill requirements for starting and growing a business. A motivational speaker (like Brooks Harper) kicks off the day followed by four, 25-minute breakout sessions led by NVCTC staff and area business leaders.



# Northern Valley Career Expo (Grade 10)

The first Northern Valley Career Expo was held in 2012 in Grand Forks. It is held annually in October and is attended by approximately 1,500 10<sup>th</sup> grade students from 35 area high schools.

The main objective is to expose students to regional employment opportunities, including educational and training paths to the great careers in our area. In addition to 22 occupational breakout sessions, this event provides a venue for regional employers/ educational providers to interact directly with students by showcasing career opportunities at their business. Businesses feature hands-on exhibits and connect with students. Students have close to an hour to explore the exhibits and visit with employers and educational/training institutions that attend.



# Cooperative Work Experience (Grades 11-12)



North Valley Career and Technology Center (NVCTC) in Grafton offers high school students cooperative work experience for credit. Work based learning experience provides real-time career exploration opportunities for students.

Students enrolled in the program must be a junior or senior who have completed a CTE course and must commit to working a minimum of two to three days a week. Placements can be one semester or a full year.

This program benefits students, employers, and the community.

#### Student Benefits:

- Develop work-related competencies.
- Improve employability.
- Motivation to stay in school/improved grades.
- Increase awareness of nontraditional career opportunities.

#### Employer Benefits:

- Pool of skilled and motivated potential future employees and/or succession planning.
- Involvement in the curriculum development process.
- Improved employee retention and reduced training/recruitment costs.

#### Community Benefits:

- Creating an environment of collaboration and cooperation among the school, employers, and the community.
- Encouraging respect, tolerance, and understanding among different groups.
- Contributing to building a more productive local economy.
- Fostering confidence in the school system as practical and beneficial results are observed.
- Encourages students to remain in the community.

The chart below reflects event participation from 2017/2018. The schools that participate in each program may vary from year to year.

School District	County	Marketplace for Kids	Youth Entrepreneur Camp	MFG DAY	Explore NVCTC	Northern Valley Career Expo	Cooperative Work Experience
Emerado	Grand Forks				•		
Manvel	Grand Forks	•		•	•		
Midway	Grand Forks	•		•	•	•	
Northwood	Grand Forks				•	•	
St. Michael's Catholic School	Grand Forks	•					
Thompson	Grand Forks				•	•	
Larimore	Nelson				•	•	
Cavalier	Pembina	•	•	•	•		•
Drayton	Pembina	•	•	•	•	•	•
North Border - Pembina	Pembina	•	•	•	•	•	•
North Border - Walhalla	Pembina	•	•	•	•	•	•
St. Thomas	Pembina	•	•	•	•		•
Valley-Edinburg	Pembina/Walsh	•	•	•	•	•	•
Edmore	Ramsey	•		•	•		
Finley-Sharon	Steele				•	•	
Hope-Page	Steele				•		
Central Valley	Trail				•		
Hatton	Trail				•	•	
Hillsboro	Trail				•		
Fordville-Lankin	Walsh	•		•	•		
Grafton	Walsh	•	•	•	•	•	•
Minto	Walsh	•	•	•	•	•	•
Park River	Walsh	•	•	•	•	•	•

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