

Synergy: The Future of Professional Education



Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School
Annual Report

2016

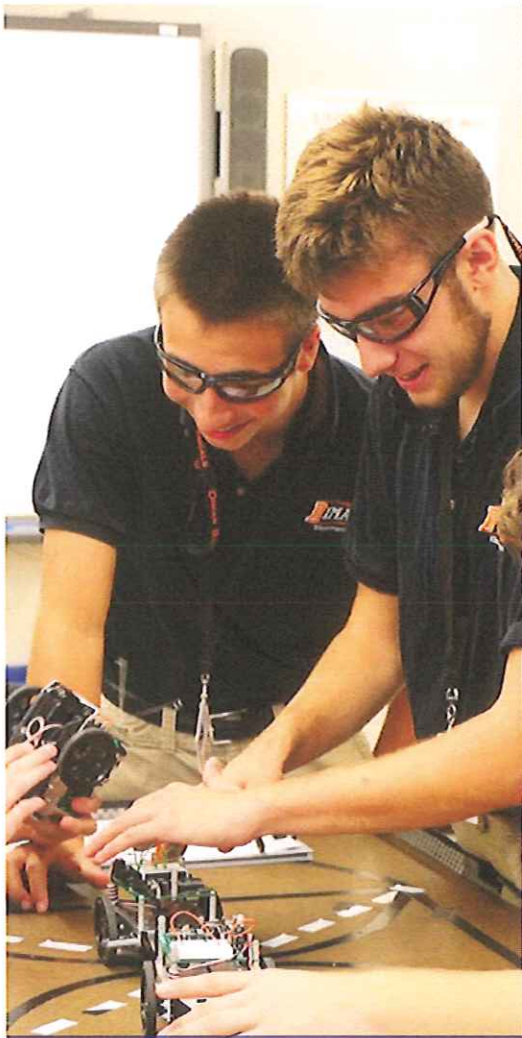


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[sin-er-jee] Synergy

the interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements,
contributions, etc.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR



Mr. Thomas F. Aubin

Superintendent-Director

In the fifty-two years since the inception of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District, the world of work and employment has changed from a parochial endeavor to a global activity. This metamorphosis has resulted in a mandate for our staff to prepare students for employment beyond their respective trades, as the nature of jobs in this synergistic climate continues to demand from instructors and students alike, the ability to train and prepare for future that is both dynamic and in some respects, still unknown. For the Diman educational community in 2016, this has meant increasing the rigor of student academic and technical competency acquisition while simultaneously enriching critical thinking skills in personal resilience. It has also meant increasing the educational and employment opportunities for Diman students by expanding government and non-governmental partnerships.

In an effort to keep the Diman community fully informed of how the district is meeting our goals as stated in both the vision and mission statements of the district, we are pleased to provide you with the Greater Fall River Vocational School District's 2016 Annual Report. It should be noted that the format of this report will be made by our current students and staff, as well as graduates who continue to have an impact on the communities in which they reside. Additionally, as giving back is an unofficial mantra of the Diman community, we will highlight how our students continue the rich Diman tradition of service to our sending communities in 2016. Another highlight of our annual report will include the profile of Isabel Costa, who has overcome significant health challenges during her time at Diman and is now successfully employed in Diman's Cooperative Education program. Her resilience is both a testimony to her strong desire to achieve, as well as representative of the employability skills that are such an integral part of the Diman educational experience.

STRENGTH AND RESILIENCY AT DIMAN

"As Superintendent-Director, I am always humbled by students that against all odds, seem to find an inner strength and grit that allows them to achieve the impossible. These students are my heroes and I feel it is only fitting that the Diman Annual Report feature such a student's story. They inspire me to be a better leader and hopefully a better person. "

- Mr. Thomas F. Aubin



Isabel Costa:

"The world can barely handle me at 85 percent, so you better watch out!"

At Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School, freshmen year is an opportunity to rediscover oneself. During her first year of high school, current senior Isabel Costa's rediscovery meant learning how to walk again. Her journey began on March 27, 2014, when her body began to feel sore at a sleepover. Attributing this to her latest softball practice, she thought nothing of it, until her legs began to feel as if they were on fire. Calling out for help, she felt her legs go weak and soon found herself unable to stand. "My brain didn't know what to do, I couldn't walk." Unable to go down the stairs, family and friends called an ambulance which took her to St. Anne's Hospital. However, Isabel's symptoms, which now included complete loss of feeling from the waist down, left doctors confused and she was quickly sent to Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island. Upon entering the exam room, Isabel was met by a dozen doctors who flooded her with questions and began rigorous testing. To ensure that she had lost all sensations, doctors' administered over 26 needle pricks to each foot. Isabel felt nothing. Isabel described the overwhelming testing and diagnosis process that lasted three weeks. Numerous blood tests, MRIs, and CT scans left doctors confused. Despite the inability to experience sensations and walk, Isabel felt fine. Finally, her neurologist ordered a spinal tap and the mystery was over.

Isabel was diagnosed with transverse myelitis. A rare disease

that impacts only 14,000 individuals in the United States, transverse myelitis causes inflammation to a part of the spinal cord, often damaging the myelin, or outside coating, of nerve cell fibers. As a result, necessary spinal cord messages sent out to the body are interrupted, thus leading to sensory problems, paralysis, and muscle weakness.

"The doctors were very negative about my diagnosis. They told me that I would probably never be able to walk again and that there wasn't much hope." Despite the initial shock and depression that came with the diagnosis, Isabel's stubborn nature quickly returned. With her doctors' negativity as fuel, Isabel quickly sparked a fire which lighted her way to recovery. Isabel was ready to start the hard work of rehabilitation and was placed at a rehabilitation center. As she advocated for herself, she became a force to be reckoned with, and within two days, demanded to be transferred to another treatment center. Her efforts led her to a one month stay at Spaulding Rehabilitation Center in Boston where she endured little sleep, no privacy, hourly doctor check-ins, and lengthy physical therapy and occupational therapy sessions.

"There were points where I was starting to lose faith. I was 14 years old with thoughts about never being able to walk again." Luckily, counselors and familial support helped her adjust. Each little victory, such as moving her big toe, was celebrated. Each progression, from getting into a



wheelchair, to crutches, to leg braces felt amazing. Isabel was completely determined to get back to a normal life and going back to school. However, achieving this was no easy feat once leaving Spaulding. While it felt good to be in the comfort of her own home, new challenges awaited her. Her biggest obstacle: the stairs. "The stairs were the worst thing. Before I left Spaulding, I had to learn how to navigate stairs to get inside my house. My mom got me to be not afraid of the stairs, since the only way to go out was to go down the stairs."

Her second biggest obstacle: her shoes. "Getting ready is a challenge. Normal things such as getting dressed took longer and wearing leg braces requires bigger shoes. It's hard to find a nice pair of shoes that fit. I have to wear Nike Roshe Run sneakers most days since they are the only shoes that work."

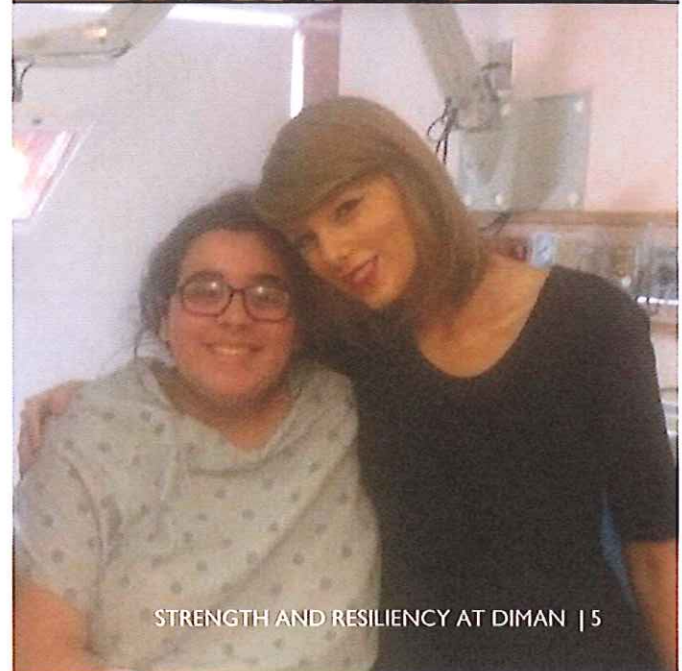
For the next 12 months, Isabel kept up with two hours of physical and occupational therapy per day and worked on mastering the stairs. Isabel also kept up with her studies, sacrificed her vacation to study with a tutor, Mr. Cabucio, her freshmen shop instructor, who graciously volunteered to help her catch up. By October of her sophomore year, she found herself back on the Diman campus. Now in her senior year, Isabel is expected to graduate on time. The first day back to school was nerve-racking; Isabel fretted about getting hurt and her peers staring at her. She found that she had nothing to worry about as Diman provided a plethora of accommodations to ensure that she wouldn't get lost in a crowd. She was provided with extra passing time, elevator access, and nursing support. The emotional support she received from her academic and shop friends and teachers was outstanding. Isabel credits her shop teachers with encouraging her to keep going—especially

reminded her of her potential. She contributes much of her success to her Diman community.

With an epic support system behind her, Isabel is also grateful that the diagnosis strengthened her friendships. Whenever she felt frustrated and insecure, Isabel's friends found ways to revive her positive and fighting attitude, always bringing out the best of her. For Isabel's long-time friend, Alendra Costa (no relation), discovering that Isabel was in the hospital was a shock. Alendra, who sat next to Isabel in shop, was reminded daily of the uncertainty of Isabel's recovery by the void that was Isabel's empty chair. Not having Isabel around was difficult, but for Alendra, seeing one of her closest friends not know who she was anymore was devastating. Luckily, Alendra is in agreement with Isabel that this experience strengthened their friendship. To Isabel's friends, not only was this a wake-up call regarding how much their friendship meant to them, it opened their eyes to how strong Isabel is. "Isabel is so much more confident knowing that she has overcome this obstacle, it's really awesome. Isabel is strong. She fought through this entire thing by herself and her strength comes from within. I've never seen anyone put on such a bold face while still being funny. I have never seen a side of her saying 'I don't want to do it anymore'. She doesn't show other people her weaknesses." While Isabel is eager to graduate on time with her class, she is excited to further her education. Inspired by her occupational therapist, she is hoping to get accepted into Bristol Community College's Occupational Therapy Assistant program. Prior to her diagnosis of transverse myelitis, Isabel never considered a career in occupational therapy. Now, she wants to work with children with disabilities and share her story as a means of inspiration. "I feel that other people have it worse than me, but I'm able to relate with other people with

disabilities and how hard it is to get around. I know how they feel on another type of level. However, having a disability has changed me. It has made me a stronger person, and I look at life differently now. I don't take things for granted and I am happy that I am walking." With a disease so rare, Isabel has not met anyone else with transverse myelitis. Despite the long, frustrating diagnosis process, she's glad that not a lot of people have it since she would not wish her disease on anyone. Besides, waiting it out also gave her an opportunity to meet celebrities such as Boston Bruin's defensemen Adam McQuaid and pop sensation Taylor Swift. Spending time with Taylor Swift was so exciting that Isabel felt like she was about to pass out and regrets that her nerves got the better of her since she forgot to ask Taylor to follow her on Twitter. Isabel's time at Diman has been a period of amazing personal rediscovery. Her story reflects Diman's mission statement, "Developing the Unique Potential of Each Learner", as she has earned national certifications in Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Outlook. She is also participating in the Cooperative Educational Program where she is employed as a customer service representative at OnProcess Technology in Fall River. The lessons learned in her Business Technology shop combined with her own intense motivation have created an infallible foundation to help her move forward. Even though Isabel is metaphorically capable of taking the first steps to reach her academic and career goals, getting around and walking at an average pace is still a challenge. Isabel's New Year's resolution is to be completely recovered. "Right now, I'm 85 percent back to the original Isabel. My goal is to be 100 percent by the end of the year. Right now though, the world can barely handle me at 85 percent so you better watch out," Isabel said with a chuckle. Her strength and determination have played a major role in her miraculous recovery, and she is incredibly grateful that her time at Diman has led her closer to her full potential. Watch out 2017, Isabel is planning on taking the world by storm—she is looking forward to ditching her leg braces and finally going shoe shopping.

“My goal is to be
100 percent by the
end of the year”



PARTNERSHIPS

In January 2016, Diman began hosting the Greater Fall River School Community Partnership. Diman's School Adjustment Counselor serves as a co-chair of this partnership that provides monthly trainings and networking for community and school representatives based on needs of youth in our community.

Trainings for the 2015-2016 school year included adolescent substance abuse and the MA treatment continuum for adolescents; updates on the Children's Advocacy Center and Governor's Council on sexual and domestic violence, porn and other sexual abuse prevention curriculum task forces; LGBTQ and homeless population issues; self-harm suicide prevention (SafeTalk, 4 hours); resilience; and current drug trends for adolescents (seeds, ecigs, vapes, etc.)

The Partnership includes representatives from:

Fall River Public Schools
Somerset-Berkley Public Schools
South Coast Educational Collaborative
District Attorney's Office
Youth Court, United Neighbors
Child and Family Services
Greater Fall River Partners for a Healthier Community
Family Services Association
Fall River Health and Human Services
Boys and Girls Club
YMCA, Greater Fall River Re-Creation
Fall River Youth

Violence Prevention Task Force

Fall River Police Department
Bristol Workforce Investment Board
Deaconess Home
St. Vincent's Home
Bristol Community College
Fall River Suicide Prevention Coalition
Katie Brown Educational Program
Bristol County Sheriff's Office
WIC
HealthFirst
St. Anne's Hospital



Diman is represented on the Fall River Suicide Prevention Coalition and Fall River Trauma Response Team, Parent Academy, the Attendance Task Force, and the Substance Abuse Coalition.

PARTNERSHIP WITH GLADDING-HEARN KEEPS DIMAN ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Water. It's critical to life, but can also be incredibly destructive—ask anyone in soggy South Carolina. However, when we harness that power, water can be an incredible tool.

One such tool is making its way into modern manufacturing – water jet cutters, or “waterjets”. These waterjets use incredibly high-pressure water, often mixed with abrasives, to cut metal or almost any surface.

Diman's Metal Fabrication and Joining Technologies shop received its first waterjet system – a Flow Waterjet Mach 2 – in June as part of the Massachusetts Vocational Opportunity Challenge grant. While teachers trained on the system in June and this summer, there was an obstacle to letting our students use it; the water itself. This is where Gladding-Hearn stepped in.

The issue is that flow waterjets come without a shield to keep the water from spraying away from the machine. Besides potentially dampening everything around, the water and metal can contain microaerophilic organisms that cause unusual infections. In other words, the water can be dangerous, and when pressures of the jet can reach 55,000 PSI, caution must be exercised.

Somerset-based boat builder Gladding-Hearn came to the rescue. “I figured they work with glass windows and shields all the time, so let's see if they could help us,” explained instructor Edward Carreiro.

The process of building the shield was a breeze, at least from Diman's perspective. “Gladding-Hearn makes everything easy. They're all professional, well-trained tradesmen. It was done within a week, from meeting to prototypes to finished product,” said Carreiro with a grin.

The four-part shield has removable sections to allow users to access the cutting head and to provide materials to be cut, so it not only helps with cleanliness and security, it's flexible enough for everyday use. The best part was the cost: Gladding-Hearn provided the shield for zero cost.

“We love working with Gladding-Hearn,” said fellow instructor David Salsinha. He and Carreiro pointed out that

Diman has a close working relationship with Gladding-Hearn. Said Salsinha with pride, “Probably half of their company are Diman grads.”

Carreiro agreed, “They take a lot of our students through the Cooperative Education program. They're on our shop's advisory board, et cetera. It's a great collaboration.”

While waterjet cutting is old technology, recent advances in computer controls and technology have pushed it to the front of the line in current processes. Waterjets are often more accurate than traditional laser or plasma cutters, and more and more companies are getting on board with the technology.

Carreiro explained, “Not a lot of companies have a waterjet, so they'll farm-out the work. It does truly high-quality cutting and it's super-efficient.”

The biggest benefit to the waterjet to Diman isn't its accuracy; it's the advantage it gives Diman students and graduates in the workplace. “When you tell people you have a sophomore or junior using a waterjet, their ears perk up. They're like ‘WOW!’,” grinned Carreiro.

The waterjet is the second of two purchases funded in part by the Massachusetts Vocational Opportunity Challenge competitive grant program. The first purchase, a Mazak Vertical Center Smart 410A machining center, was delivered to our Machine Tool Technology program in December 2014 and is currently in use by Diman's students.



GIVING

Diman Dental—Making a Difference in Our Communities



Dr. Ahern's staff was thrilled with Diman's contribution, writing, "A special thank you to Maria and the Diman students for running sterilization. WOW! What an amazing job this year!"

Charity Walk

The generosity of Diman's Dental Assisting program is well-known, so it should come as no surprise that they started the current school year with two charitable events in the first month. First, students and staff lent a hand in the annual Dentistry from the Heart program in Seekonk, then another group of students and staff participated in the Health First Second Annual 3-mile Walkathon.

Dentistry from the Heart, now in its ninth year at Southcoast Smiles, is an annual event that Diman's students have helped at for the past eight years. This year, the event provided over \$65k worth of dental work to 173 patients on September 10th.

"Many of these patients have fallen on tough times due to economic hardships and are still getting back on their feet after losing jobs and therefore their insurance," explained Dental Assisting Department Head Maria Torres.

"It's a wonderful experience for the students to be involved in such a rewarding event that gives back to the community."

Dental Assisting students also participated in the Health First Annual 3-Mile Walkathon on September 24, 2016 at the Bristol Community College Pond. The event supported Health First's Dental Outreach Program by helping them to buy a van to bring equipment to their various sites.

"I am so proud with the turnout of our students, especially being held on a Saturday," said Dental Assisting instructor Jeannine Carreiro. "We had 26 Dental Assisting students along with their family members and friends participating in the walkathon."

The students raised \$500 to donate to the cause (and become Silver Sponsors) by volunteering to collect donations during lunch periods. "It proves how the Diman community pulls together to contribute to others," enthused Carreiro.

Carreiro's students agreed. "I felt really fortunate to be part of the walkathon, because I knew I was making a difference," said senior Gabriela Vultao. "Raising so much money made me feel even better

because it contributed even more to the cause."

"I had a good experience with my friends and I enjoyed helping out the community," contributed sophomore Celina Andreoli.

There was even an added bonus – making connections. Explained Carreiro, "It was also a great opportunity for the students to network with the dentist."

In addition to the walkathon and their regular contributions to Dentistry from the Heart, Dental Assisting also contributes to Team Smiles at Yankee Dental, collects holiday toys, raises money to provide cleft lip surgeries, teaches proper dental care to pre-K students with Citizens for Citizens' Head Start, and conducts a variety of other charity events.



BACK

203

HOURS DEDICATED TO THE GREATER FALL RIVER
RELAY FOR LIFE IN 2015

11

TEACHERS AND THEIR FAMILIES SERVED AS
EVENT VOLUNTEERS

5

DIMAN TEACHERS SERVE ON THE EVENT'S LEADERSHIP TEAM

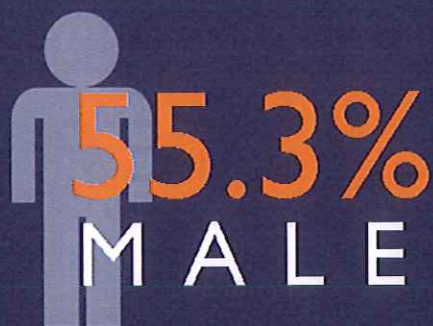
156

HOURS DEDICATED TO THE GREATER FALL
RIVER RELAY FOR LIFE IN 2016

6

ALUMNI SERVED AS EVENT VOLUNTEERS

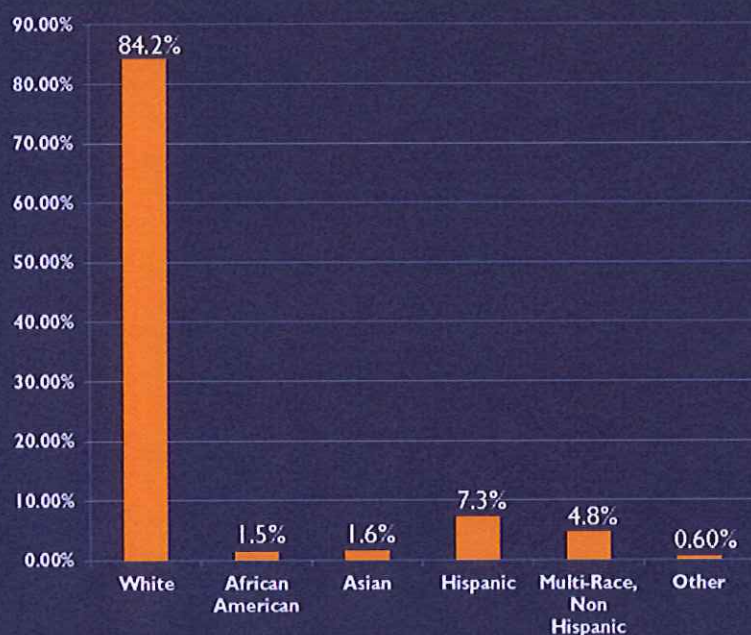
DIMAN BY THE NUMBERS



10% SPECIAL EDUCATION
STUDENT ENROLLMENT

276 JUNIORS AND
SOPHOMORES
TOOK THE PSAT

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



1
TEACHER
TO
10.4
STUDENTS

136
TEACHERS



2015-2016 SNAPSHOT

21%	STUDENTS ATTEND A 4 YEAR COLLEGE
36%	STUDENTS ATTEND A 2 YEAR COLLEGE
64	STUDENTS ENROLLED IN DUAL ENROLLMENT
93	STUDENTS RECEIVED THE ABIGAIL ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP
\$118,700	IN SCHOLARSHIPS

MCAS RESULTS

TEST DATE	CLASS YOG	ENGLISH			MATH			SCIENCE		
		A/P	NI	F	A/P	NI	F	A/P	NI	F
Spring 2016	2018	94%	5%	0%	77%	19%	3%	80%	16%	3%
Spring 2015	2017	96%	4%	0%	76%	17%	6%	74%	23%	3%
Spring 2014	2016	92%	7%	0%	78%	18%	3%	70%	27%	4%

National Medal Winners

Name	Competition	Results	Town
Rodrigues, Isabella	Job Skills Demonstration Open	Gold	Fall River
Gouveia, Noah	Cabinetmaking	Bronze	Somerset
Toupin, Ally	Job Skills Demonstration A	Bronze	Fall River
Almeida, Mackenzie	Career Pathways Dental Cluster	Bronze	Fall River
Quiros, Yazlyn	Career Pathways Dental Cluster	Bronze	Fall River
Antunes, Lauren	Career Pathways Dental Cluster	Bronze	Fall River
Bugara, Collin	Chapter Business Procedure	Bronze	Fall River
DeSousa, Meggan	Chapter Business Procedure	Bronze	Fall River
Hawkins, William	Chapter Business Procedure	Bronze	Fall River
Moniz, Elijah	Chapter Business Procedure	Bronze	Westport
Morrison, Marissa	Chapter Business Procedure	Bronze	Fall River
Oliveira, Brittany	Chapter Business Procedure	Bronze	Westport
Amarantes, Hannah	Medical Terminology	Bronze	Fall River
Valcorba, Dinis	Electronics Technology	7th	Fall River
Benoit, Chelsey	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Westport
Borges, Alyanna	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Fall River
Janeiro, Beatrice	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Fall River
Pereira, Kendra	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Fall River
Stanley, Kyla	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Fall River
Sweatt, Ashley	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Fall River
Varao, Brent	Opening & Closing Ceremony	13th	Westport
Audet, Kayla	Job Skills Demonstration A Post Sec	Top 20	Fall River
Rodrigues, Brenda-Lee	Job Skills Demonstration Open Post Sec	Top 21	Westport
Fakunle, Victoria	Prepared Speech Post Sec	Top 22	Fall River
DaRocha, Shaun	National Pin Design	Nationals	





USA

2016 GENES IN SPACE COMPETITION

Hello, we're one of the final teams in the 2016 Genes in Space competition. Our team was composed of three students: Dylan Barcelos, Kylie Cooper, and Mason Frizado. We're from Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School in Fall River, Massachusetts. When our freshman and sophomore biology teacher, Liss O'Connell, told us about the contest, we were interested that PCR could be performed in space. We entered the first contest in 2015 and won an honorable mention, so we decided to try again this year and were ecstatic to hear that our idea landed us in the final five.

Our proposal was about horizontal gene transfer of antibiotic resistance in bacterial biofilms. Initially, we started with the interest of natural selection in space. After researching, we came across how bacterial cells can share favorable traits, that which we stated in our proposal. Microgravity was an important piece in the equation, for it's been shown that biofilms develop more perfect 3D structures in this low gravity environment. We were interested to see if this communication and sharing of antibiotic resistance in biofilms would happen more efficiently in space.

Our team had an amazing week at the ISS R&D Conference. We were able to meet astronauts and scientists from across the world that shared our passion for science. Being able to meet these people was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that inspired us, and the friendships we formed with the other teams are invaluable. Everyone who helped organize the competition was great, as well. We are extremely thankful that we were given the chance to experience the conference, take a tour of the JCVI facilities, and visit San Diego.

As for future contestants, we'd advise you to think about issues in science today. More importantly, future contestants should be greatly interested in their topics. We put a lot of time and effort into this competition, so we believe that it's crucial to find a topic for which you feel dedication and passion. Don't be afraid if your idea sounds out of this world, because you never know what the next giant leap for mankind will be. – Dylan, Kylie, and Mason



DIMAN AND UMASS COLLABORATE ON PHOTO PROJECT

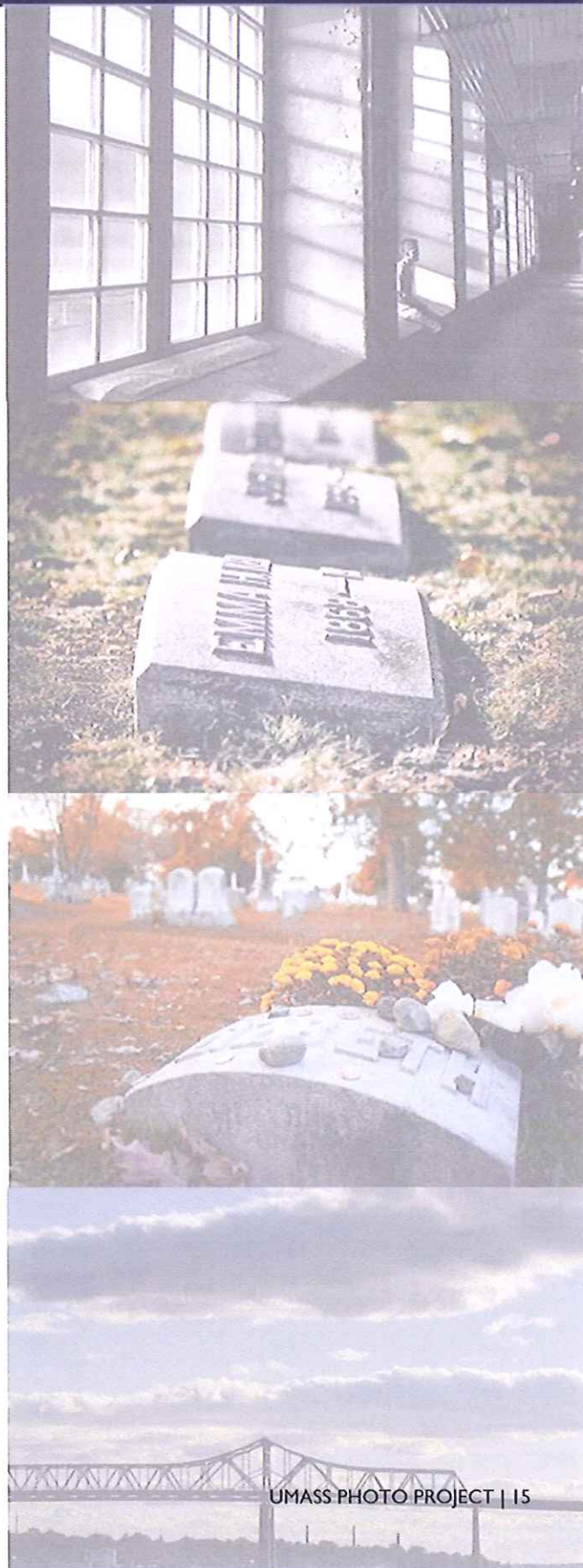
Fall River will come into sharp focus this year when the students in the Photography Club at Diman Regional and sociology students at UMass Dartmouth collaborate to photograph the people and neighborhoods of the city. Diman students will be honing their photography skills and learning how to photograph the people and neighborhoods as they take photographs of their family, friends, neighborhoods, local businesses, places of worship, parks, and various places that are important to them around the city.

Student work will be featured in a photo exhibit at the Narrows Center for the Arts in June 2017.

The faculty sponsors of the Photography Club at Diman, Michelle Gaudencio and Paul Beaudoin, as well as UMass Dartmouth faculty member Andrea Klimt, will be taking the students on local teacher-guided field trips and giving them themed field assignments to help the students capture the local flavor of Fall River.

Students have already started on the project by taking beautiful fall pictures at Oak Grove Cemetery. The students will be issued press passes identifying them as being involved with the Fall River Portraits project. Giving these students a welcoming reception will significantly help them capture great portraits of the city.

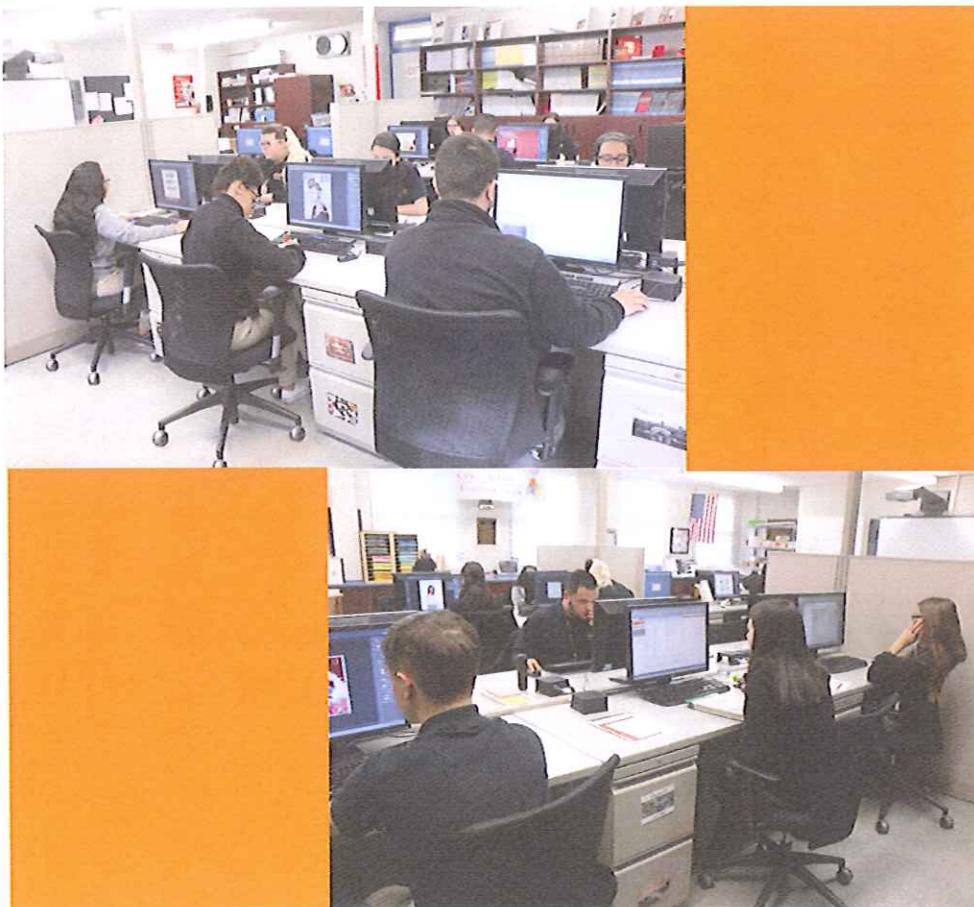
This project will create positive learning experiences for high school students as well as creative ways for these students to contribute to important dialogues about Fall River. Giving students the opportunity and skills to produce meaningful knowledge for their communities will foster a deeper understanding of, and increased pride in their own communities. The interactions between the high school and the college students at UMass Dartmouth will also encourage high school students to actively consider pursuing a college education. The resulting corpus of photographs will, along with those from previous years of the Fall River Portraits project, will become part of the photographic documentation of Fall River's diverse neighborhoods.



Route 44 Toyota—Hyundai | Mastria Nissan | Spindle City | Mahr Federal
 OnProcess Technology | Bristol County Savings Bank | Staples Inc. |
 Alexandra's Boutique | First Bristol Corp. | Levin & Levin | Center for
 Sight | Piping Systems | Design Ergonomics | Diman | Spectrum Lighting
 Chartier Construction | LaFrance Hospitality | Schwartz Hardware
 Lee's Market | Newport Creamery | People, Inc. | McGovern's Res
 taurant Kathy's Coffee Shop Whites of Westport | Herrick & White |
 Homeland Builders | CEI Builders Specialty Millwork | Patriot Flooring |
 Roger Wilkie Builders | Horner Millwork | Grinnell Cabinet | East Bay
 Community Action Program Dr. Dental of Plymouth | Dental
 Dreams of Fall River | Omni Dental New England Dental Specialists |
 Dr. Randolph Sousa | New Bedford Pediatric and Orthodontic South
 Coast Smiles Perfect Smiles | Advanced Care Endontics | Dr. Mer
 cier Dental Associations | Silver City Aluminium | Johnson & Johnson/
 Depuy Teknikor | Young Electric New England Energy Concepts Inc. |
 Dan Silva Electrical | RALCO Electrical INO Electrical | Florence Electri
 cal | JR Alarms | SANLO Electrical | EMC American Dryer | Edge Tech |
 Corporate I age Apparel | Cambridge Offset | Southside Tees |
 CEC Engineering | Better Image Apparel |

C O O P E R A T I V E E D U C A T I O N

EMPLOYERS





317

STUDENTS ON CO-OP

4%

DIMAN STUDENTS ON CO-OP EARN
4% MORE THAN THE STATE AVERAGE
FOR VOCATIONAL CO-OP STUDENTS

21%

MACHINE TOOL STUDENTS EARN 21%
MORE THAN THEIR COUNTERPARTS
THROUGHOUT THE STATE

DRAMA ON STAGE AT DIMAN

Diman's recently-formed Theater Arts Club broke a (proverbial) leg recently, winning two awards at its first-ever competition on February 27, 2016. Performing the courtroom scene from Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* at the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild High School Drama Festival Competition preliminary round at Bourne High School, the theater group earned acting awards for Patric DeCastro (Judge Danforth) and Gabriella Noversa (Mary Warren).

Many of Diman's actors had never performed before and were impressive in their first time on the stage. The cast was made up of one senior, one junior, seven sophomores and four freshmen. Joining DeCastro and Noversa on the stage were Andrew Leger (John Proctor), Taylor Bird (Elizabeth Proctor), Javier Mendez (Judge Hathorne), Christina Sanger (Francis Nurse), Breann Almeida (Abigail Williams), Matthew Garcia (Reverend Hale), Nicholas Mota (Reverend Parris), Amber Almeida (Cheever), Nina Goncalves (Mercy Lewis), Philip Borgeson (Giles Corey), and Victoreya Lambert (Martha Corey). The co-directors this year were Cathie Noversa and Eric Spencer.

"I'm very proud of this group of students," said Noversa. "They saved their best for last ... their performance at the festival was the strongest they had done."

Most schools that enter this competition have done so for many years, and most schools have a theater arts class during the school day with rehearsals at night. In contrast, Diman holds its rehearsals one night per week in the Diman auditorium.

Festival competition involves many aspects of putting on a play. There are many rules for festival. Each school is responsible for setting up and breaking down their set, and the play must fall within a 40 minute time limit. All members of the cast and crew must be in attendance for the entire day, for all eight shows. Judging involves all this and set design, costume design, music choice, lighting, and of course, the ability to put on a great show.

The three festival judges did critique the play and sent notes to the directors. These notes commended many aspects of the play and also made suggestions and how the play could be improved upon.

The Theater Arts Club is planning to show their festival entry to the public on Friday, April 1st at 7pm. The show is approximately 30 minutes long and tickets can be purchased for \$5 at the door.

DIMAN RECEIVES MORE GUITARS FROM LOCAL GROUPS

Ray Mullin Music and The Kevin Wright Celebration of Music have boosted Diman's nascent music program for the second time in a year with a donation of guitars.

The Swansea shop teamed with the local charity to donate four guitars and a box of strings to the program, an after-school club geared to teaching students and staff how to play the six-string.

The instruments and strings supplement a donation of six guitars in February of 2016.

Several of the students present at the event learned to play the guitar after last year's donation. They were able to pay the donation forward by donating their time to the Alumni Association's Rockin' for Scholarships fundraiser.



4 Years—Happy Anniversary

Business Technology began its first dual enrollment college certificate program with Bristol Community College (BCC) in 2012. This collaboration allows students in the Business Technology program the opportunity to earn and complete 29 college credits in the Office Skills Training Certificate Program at BCC. As part of the agreement, Business Technology students commit to complete three college level courses through BCC totaling 12 credits:

- OFC 255 Executive Office Procedures
- OFC 120 – Text Editing
- ENG 101 – Composition I College Writing

Business Technology students can earn the remaining 17 credits through an articulation agreement with BCC by successfully completing the Business Technology curriculum and participating in the Cooperative Education program. Tuition and fees are waived for credit courses.

Upon graduation from Diman and completion of the dual enrollment program with BCC, students will earn a high school diploma and a Certificate of Achievement from BCC in Office Skills Training.

Students who wish to earn an associate degree in Office Administration will then begin their BCC experience by nearly one full year ahead of their classmates—saving them time and money.



35

GRADUATES SINCE 2013

25

STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED

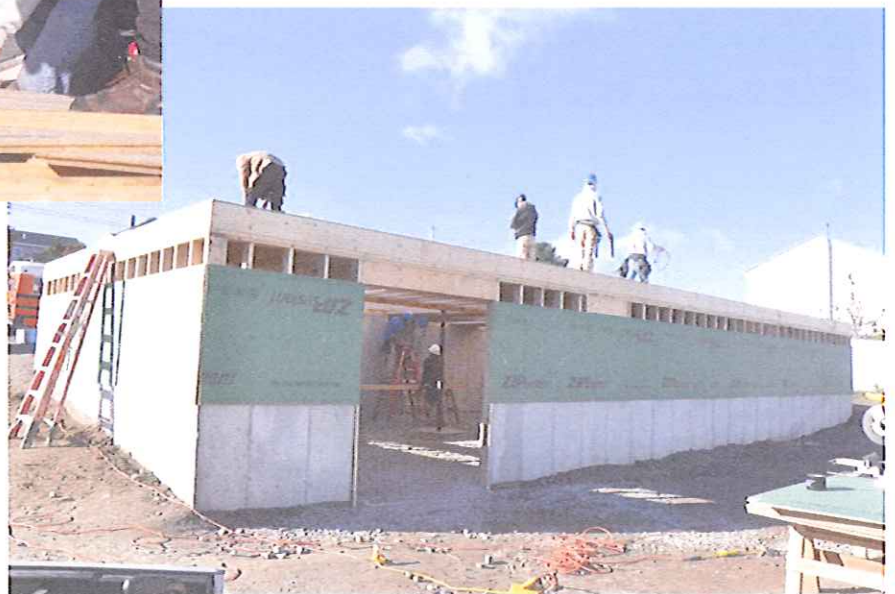
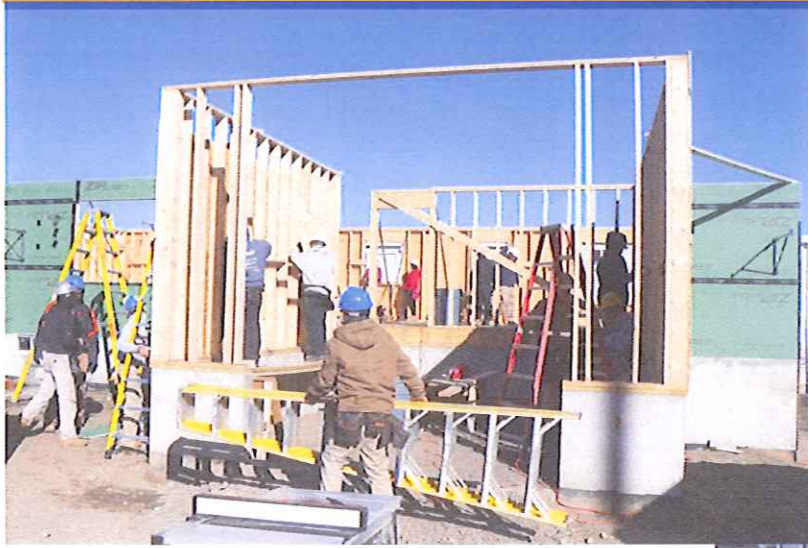
\$4,959

COST OF 29 CREDITS AT BRISTOL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

\$0

WHAT BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS PAY
FOR AN OFFICE SKILLS TRAINING CERTIFICATE

HOUSE BUILDING PROJECT



DIMAN STUDENTS WILL HELP BUILD HOUSE FOR VETERANS

Michael Gagne
Herald News Staff Reporter

FALL RIVER — After a few years during which Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School students and teachers have collaborated on other community service projects, this fall, they will be building a house.

Starting in September, about 50 Diman seniors and juniors in various shops — including carpentry, plumbing and electricity — will be leaving their shops and heading to an actual construction site. Every two weeks, students will rotate to build a ranch-style home with a one-car garage at a site that is currently a vacant lot with several trees on a small hill at the southwest corner of Chicago Street and Stafford Road.

That home will then be used as a housing unit for veterans.

"We are delighted to be back in the house-building business," said Diman Superintendent-Director Marta Montleon during a groundbreaking for the project Wednesday morning.

Diman is partnering with People, Incorporated's People Improving Communities and Neighborhoods Inc., affiliate and Fall River's Community Development Agency on the project.

The school had previously partnered with People, Incorporated and the CDA on past projects, Montleon said.

Diman Assistant Director-Principal Kyle Alves said the project is the result of "a tremendous

partnership."

That the house will be used as veterans housing was of particular significance for him, he said, because of his family's history of military service: Alves' grandfather served in World War II, his father in the Vietnam War and his brother-in-law in the recent war in Iraq.

"This gives the students a sense of giving back to the community," Alves said. "They know the house is going to go to someone who needs it."

Describing the project, Heath Chouinard, a building and property maintenance instructor, said, "Generally speaking, the group of Diman shops does everything — plumbing, electricity, roofing, flooring — everything."

The home will also be energy-efficient because students will install solar panels on its roof and build it to meet current green building standards.

A contractor will install the house's foundation this month, and when school resumes, students will begin work on the project. The home is expected to be completed by next June, 2016.

Longtime carpentry instructor and now-department head Manny Botelho said students will also learn from participating in the project, as it aligns with Diman's curriculum.

Carpentry instructor Jeffrey Cabral will oversee the project. Cabral said as a former Diman student and later in the industry he had been involved in previous house-building projects.

"It's great to be able to pass my technical skill and knowledge on to the students," he said.

Students met with a few veterans on hand, as well as city officials, including Mayor Sam Sutter.

"I'm looking forward to your work," said Robert Viner, the vice commander of the Veterans Council of Greater Fall River, to students.

"We're very excited," Viner said. "I think this is needed in the community. A lucky veteran is going to have one heck of a good house."

Sutter said the project fits in with ongoing efforts to rebuild and improve the city of Fall River. He called it an example of the "spirit of cooperation" and a "noble and important" endeavor.

People, Incorporated president and CEO Robert Canuel and CDA Executive Director Michael Dion each expressed excitement toward the project.

Dion said CDA has worked with Diman on similar projects in the past.

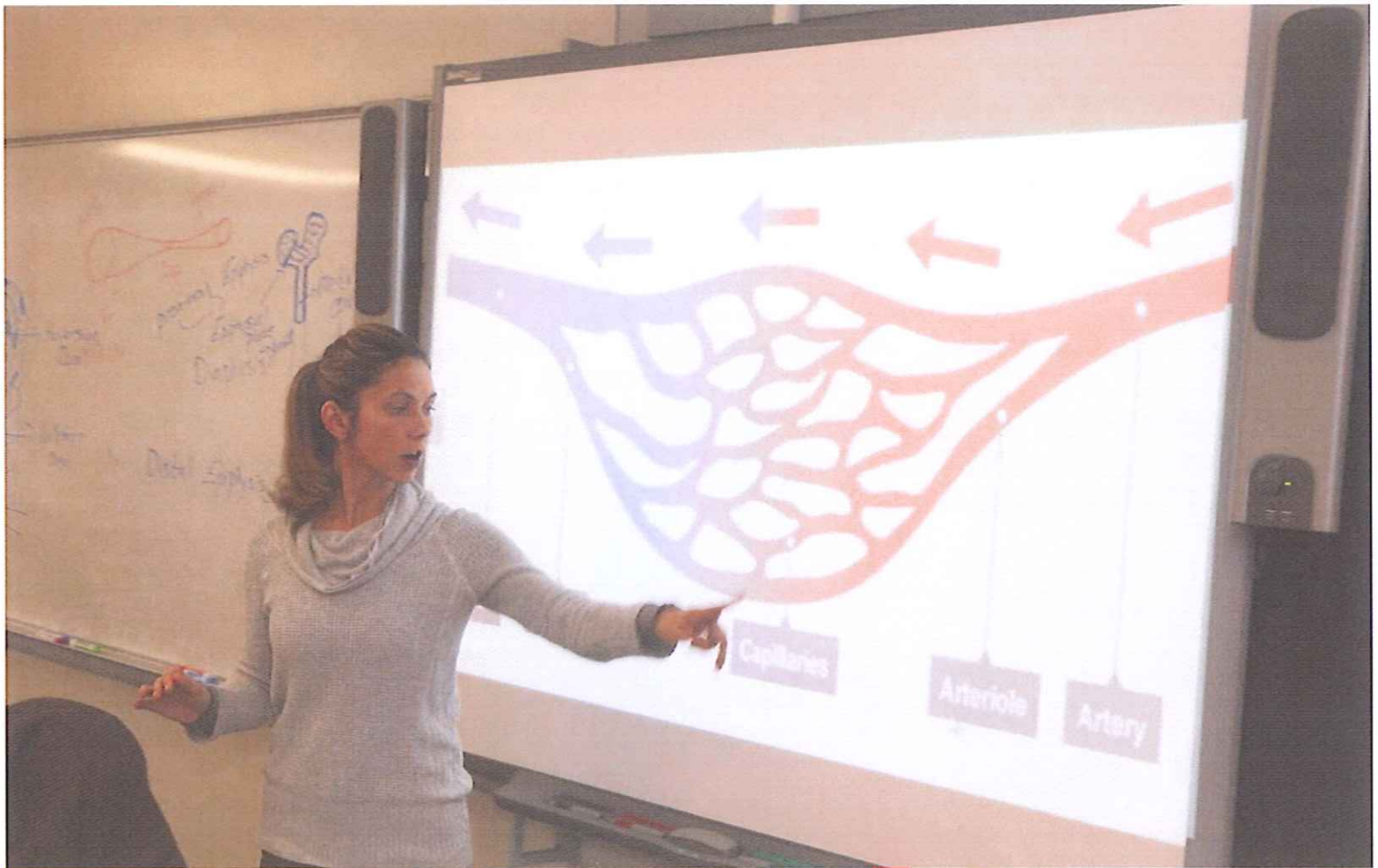
"The students and teachers really deliver a beautiful house," he said. "Let the building begin."

2017 DIMAN GOALS

Since 1968, Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School (RVTHS) has been a leader in preparing students for both career and college readiness. Serving the students of Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, and Westport, Diman provides both secondary and post-secondary opportunities. As an educational philosophy, Diman faculty and staff believe that world-class education comeslingles experiential learning with rigorous academia. As such, Diman educators aim to graduate socially conscious and critically engaged participants of a global community. Diman alumni are then expected to utilize their educational experiences to advance change in a fluid and technologically savvy world. (excerpt from School Improvement Plan)

GOALS

- ◇ Incorporate a co-teach model: As an innovative, professional school, Diman believes in the strength of educator collaboration. For this reason, Diman aims to develop partnerships between educators that will allow for a content specialist co-teach model. This form of education will allow for more one-on-one and student focused services and education.
- ◇ Provide model professional development in line with industry standards: In alignment with our District Goal #2: Educator Growth and Development, Diman intends to provide industry standard professional development to all faculty and staff. The movement towards such professional development includes peer-to-peer training, an academic conference design, and implementation of professional development strategies.
- ◇ Increase Advanced Placement course offerings: In order to keep pace in an ever-changing and tech savvy environment, Diman proposes the expansion of Advanced Placement course offerings. This expansion aims to promote creativity and the competitive edge needed for future academic successes.
- ◇ Expand and improve upon science laboratory structures: In an effort to educate students in a rigorous academic environment, Diman intends to expand and improve upon both the biology and physics labs. Set to open in the coming school year, these laboratory settings will allow for the hands-on education necessary for both STEM and STEAM achievements.
- ◇ Investigate co-teaching as a means for special education inclusion: As a facilitator of education, Diman supports students at all levels and believes in the need to offer a variety of services. In this way, Diman aims to research and investigate the advantages of co-teaching as a model for special education inclusion. As a delivery model, co-teaching finds value in the pairing of a special educator and a content educator. As a philosophy, Diman supports these academic partnerships.





RETURN ON INVESTMENT



GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET

FOUNDATION REVENUE:		
Chapter 70 Foundation Aid	\$	15,695,770
Community Assessments	\$	7,579,429
Carry Forward	\$	872,830
TOTAL	\$	24,148,029

FOUNDATION EXPENSES:		
1000 Administration	\$	2,210,733
2000 Instruction	\$	13,642,375
3000 Student Related Expenses	\$	900,379
4000 Plant Operations/Maintenance	\$	3,421,877
5000 Retirement and Insurance	\$	3,972,665
TOTAL	\$	24,148,029

TRANSPORTATION (By Regional Agreement):		
Student Transportation Expenses	\$	677,910
Chapter 71 Transportation Aid (62% Reimbursement)	\$	422,235
TOTAL	\$	255, 675

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ASSESSMENT:				
Towns	# of Students	Ratio	Regional Assessment	Community Assessment
Fall River	1108	0.7517	\$ 255,675	\$ 192,190
Somerset	130	0.0882	\$ 255,675	\$ 22,549
Swansea	121	0.0821	\$ 255,675	\$ 20,988
Westport	115	0.0780	\$ 255,675	\$ 19,948
TOTAL	1474			\$ 255,675

TOTAL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT:				
Towns	Foundation	Transportation	Total	
Fall River	\$ 3,369,028	\$ 192,190	\$	3,561,218
Somerset	\$ 1,395,090	\$ 22,549	\$	1,417,639
Swansea	\$ 1,255,993	\$ 20,988	\$	1,276,981
Westport	\$ 1,559,318	\$ 19,948	\$	1,579,266
TOTAL	\$ 7,579,429	\$ 255,675	\$	7,835,104

Thank You

“When mutual understanding and respect are present, the spirit of synergy inevitably starts to develop.”

— Stephen R. Covey

Diman's elected and appointed school committee is the perfect example of synergy. The committee's dedication and experience creates an environment of collaboration that strives for excellence. We thank them for serving and for contributing to the development of school policy that will guide Diman into the future.

School Committee Members

Jeffrey Begin
Swansea

Thomas Chace
Fall River

Donald DiBiasio
Somerset

Paul Jennings—Chairperson
Westport

Joan Menard
Fall River

Rajiv Nehra
Fall River

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

— Helen Keller

While we're proud of our vocational programs and their ability to turn young men and women into skilled members of the community, we can't maintain that level of quality without the help of industry professionals. Our Vocational Advisory Board helps steer our vocational programs and students toward future success.

Diman values our board members and is grateful for the industry professionals that volunteer their time for the betterment of our school. You are critical to the success of our programs and provide us with up-to-date inside knowledge of industry trends and technologies, both cutting-edge and proven industry standards.

Contributions of industry professionals like you are what helps Diman remain the vibrant learning community we're known as. Thank you.

“Synergy - the bonus that is achieved when things work together harmoniously.”

—Mark Twain

Diman's professional faculty and staff offer students in our district expert training in the following vocational programs:

Automotive Collision Repair and Refinishing

Electronics

Automotive Technology

General Shop

Building and Property Maintenance

Graphic Communications

Business Technology

Health Assisting

Carpentry-Cabinetmaking

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration

Culinary Arts

Machine Tool Technology

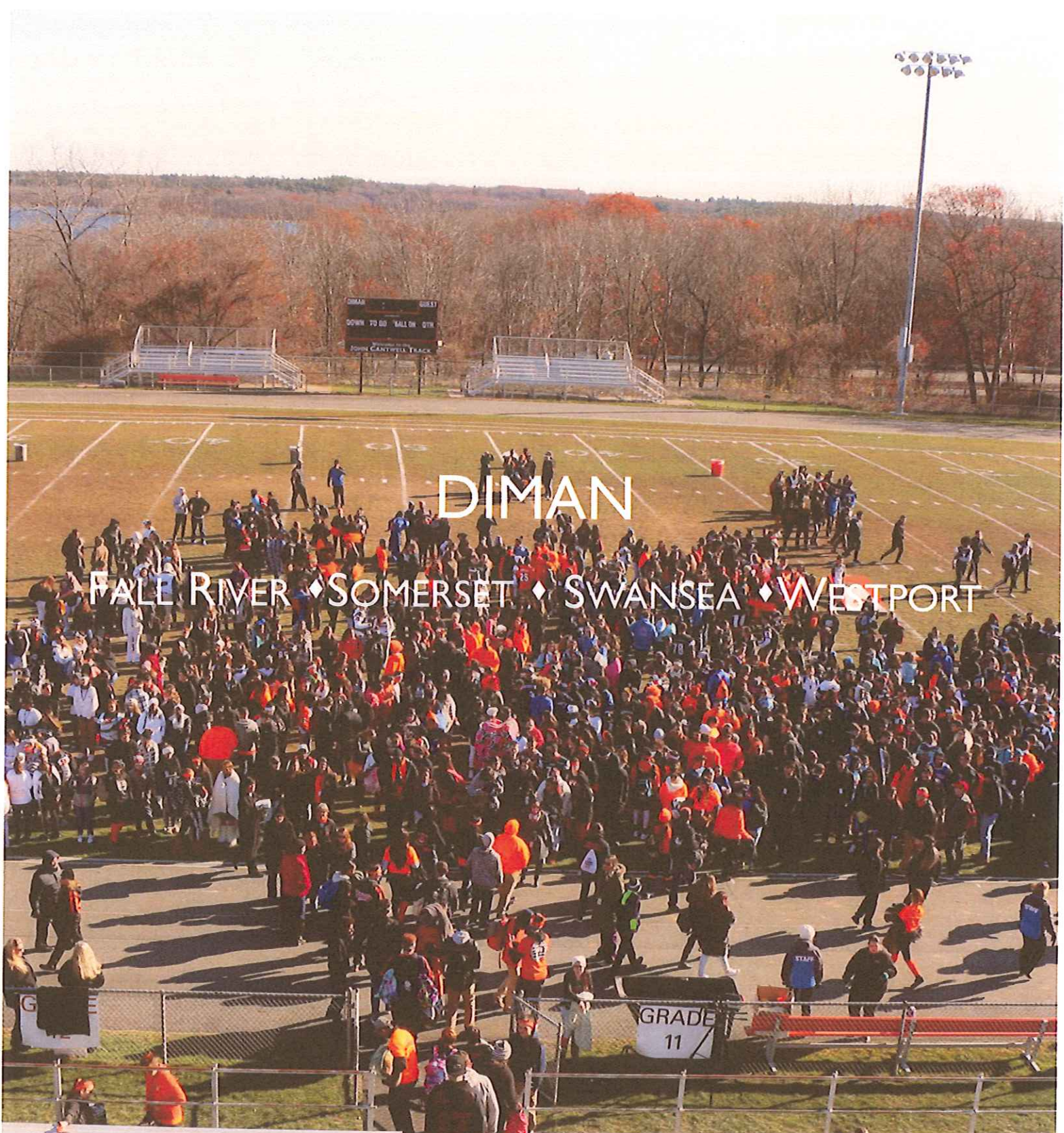
Dental Assisting

Metal Fabrication & Joining Technology

Drafting

Plumbing

Electricity

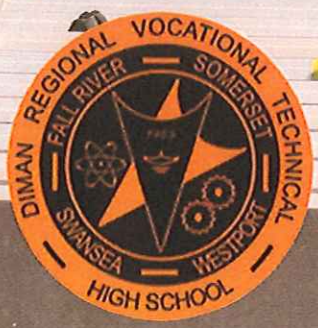


DIMAN GUEST
DOWN TO GO BALL ON QTR
JOHN GANTWELL TRACK

DIMAN

FALL RIVER ♦ SOMERSET ♦ SWANSEA ♦ WESTPORT

GRADE 11



DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

251 Stonehaven Road, Fall River, MA 02723

WWW.DIMANREGIONAL.ORG

WESTPORT

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Certificate of Academic Excellence – Brandon Terry
Student Achievement Award – Cara Pimentel
Presidential Certificate of Merit – Kaylana Amorin (Health Assisting)
Academic Achievement Award – Class of 2018 – Kylie Cooper
Academic Achievement Award – Class of 2016 – Brandon Terry

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2016

<i>Parent Advisory Council Scholarship –</i>	Tori Martinez, Cara Pimentel, and Brandon Terry
<i>Jose V. Medeiros Scholarship –</i>	Cara Pimentel
<i>Gary L. Desmarais Scholarship -</i>	Eternaty Cabeceiras
<i>Andrew Dumont Memorial Scholarship -</i>	Brandon Terry
<i>Thomas Rodrigues Memorial Scholarship –</i>	Brandon Terry
<i>Marasco DaSilva Memorial Scholarship -</i>	Cara Pimentel
<i>Mark Marcoux Memorial Scholarship –</i>	Cara Pimentel
<i>Jim Martin Scholarship –</i>	Jacqueline Audet
<i>Alumni President Scholarship -</i>	Ross Lafrance
<i>William T. Walsh Memorial Scholarship -</i>	Brandon Terry
<i>Department of the Air Force – Math & Science Award</i>	Brandon Terry
<i>U.S. Marine Corps – Scholastic Excellence Award</i>	Kaylana Amorin
<i>U.S. Marine Corps – Distinguished Athlete Award</i>	Cara Pimentel

JOHN & ABIGAIL ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2016

<i>Kaylana Amorin</i>	<i>Jordan Cook</i>
<i>Marcel Aragao</i>	<i>Andrew Manchester</i>
<i>Jacqueline Audet</i>	<i>Zachary Melo</i>
<i>Tyler Audet</i>	<i>Brittany Oliveira</i>
<i>Michael Barboza</i>	<i>Branden Paquin</i>
<i>Eternaty Cabeceiras</i>	

SKILLS-USA COMPETITIONS

District Competition

<i>Gold</i>	<i>Brandon Calouro, Haylee Cooper, Noah Ferreira, Tania Melo, and Paige Quintal</i>
<i>Silver</i>	<i>Marcel Aragao and Nicholas Simbro</i>
<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Jordan Brodeur</i>

State Competition

<i>Gold</i>	<i>Chelsey Benoit, Elijah Moniz, Brittany Oliveira, Brenda-Lee Rodrigues, and Brent Varao</i>
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<i>Silver</i>	<i>Branden Paquin</i>
<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Jessica Liles and Nicholas Simbro</i>
<i>National Competition</i>	
<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Elijah Moniz and Brittany Oliveira</i>

SPORTS AWARDS

Athlete of the Year Kyle Cordeiro

Most Outstanding Player Awards

Kyle Cordeiro – *Boys' Winter Track and Boys' Spring Track*

OUTSTANDING VOCATIONAL STUDENT

Ross Lafrance received the Outstanding Vocational Student Award in Automotive Technology.