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News

NBHS students come up ACEs

Tuesday, April 15, 2014 11:25 PM EDT

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STAFF WRITER

NEW BRITAIN — New Britain High School students Alek Glogowski and Shamoony Yaghmor will get their 15 minutes of fame this evening when they make their ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering) presentations at the Central Connecticut State University Institute of Technology and Business Development's closing ceremony and banquet.

Glogowski, 17 and a senior, says he will be attending college next year. He's not sure where, but he will major in engineering. He says the ACE program gave him a step up in engineering and architecture. He worked on the relocation of the New Britain Industrial Museum to the former police station.

Sophomore Yaghmor, 16, says he was impressed with his visit to Kaestle Boos Architects. Tonight, he will make a presentation on building a new concession stand in Walnut Park. He wants to attend CCSU and major in engineering; he wouldn't mind landing an engineering job at Kaestle Boos.

Instructors and professionals from several New Britain-area businesses have been providing Glogowski, Yaghmor and 13 other New Britain students with a hands-on look at careers in architecture, construction and engineering.

The New Britain Chapter of the ACE Mentor Program is a collaboration which also includes CCSU's TRiO Educational Talent Search program and the New Britain Boys and Girls Club. ACE mentors are volunteers from local firms, including Kaestle Boos Associates, Manafort Brothers, Tomasso Brothers, Van Zelm Engineers and Downes Construction Co.

"It is hoped that through exposure to ACE, students, especially those traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education, will be inspired to pursue a college education and ACE careers," said Tom Menditto, director of TRiO Educational Talent Search.

The students have been involved in the weekly ACE sessions held after school at the Boys and Girls Club since December. They've been engaged in learning about design, engineering and construction methods, and the educational requirements and career opportunities in these STEM-related fields. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Working in teams, they have designed simulated architectural and engineering projects. The first involved the relocation and renovation of the New Britain Industrial Museum, the second the relocation and building of a concession stand at Walnut Hill Park.

The projects have provided the students with opportunities to improve basic skills involving drawing, problem solving, decision making, math and presentation.

Project presentations to industry professionals, parents and fellow students will be given at the closing ceremony tonight at 6 p.m. at the CCSU Institute of Technology & Business Development, 185 Main St., New Britain.

Tours of the New Britain Industrial Museum will also be conducted.

For more information on the New Britain ACE Mentor Program contact Menditto at menditto@ccsu.edu or call (860) 832-2215.

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