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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WELDING COURSES AT KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL CONNECT CLASSWORK WITH ADVANCED CREDIT & CERTIFICATION

Kimberly, Wis. – October 25, 2018 - Improvements to the welding fabrication courses at [Kimberly High School \(KHS\)](#) are providing students with more opportunities to pursue their potential. Last year, the welding shop ventilation system was updated to provide more student work stations.

A computer numerical control (CNC) plasma cutter was also added to provide more welding fabrication opportunities. The plasma cutter allows students to use a computer to direct the CNC machine to cut metal based on numerical codes in a program. This type of cutting increases the speed of creating items and also does more precise cuts with smoother edges. “I have really enjoyed the welding classes at Kimberly High School,” said Andrew Kieffer, a junior at KHS. “The program has helped me find a career that I will really enjoy and plan to pursue in the future.”



Andrew Kieffer, a junior, is learning how to use the CNC plasma cutter at Kimberly High School.

Perhaps most exciting is that the Welding Technology 3 course now aligns with the [Fox Valley Technical College \(FVTC\)](#) Dual Credit program. “The program gives students the opportunity to gain FVTC Welding Fabrication program credits,” said Luke Smith, technology education teacher at KHS. The Welding 3 class covers safety, print reading, symbols and gas metal arc welding (GMAW) techniques. If students complete the

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class, passing with a C or higher, they receive five FVTC credits towards the welding program. “The curriculum meets the requirements for an industry-recognized certificate called Basic GMAW Welder Certificate which students can use to advance them in the welding/fabrication career pathway,” added Smith. This certificate is the first level welding certificate at FVTC and it is an industry recognized credential.

By developing these skills and earning this credential, students will be prepared for high-demand careers in welding. The welding program connects high school courses with real-world opportunities; this connection will better prepare students for their future.



Senior Nathan Ashbrenner works on a project during the Welding Technology 2 class at Kimberly High School.

About the Kimberly Area School District

The Kimberly Area School District is a progressive public school district committed to providing the best possible education available to students. Its responsibility is to help lead the way in developing well-rounded students and future citizens. The District wants every student to be given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts and co-curricular activities. It encompasses approximately 17 square miles and serves over 5,100 students in one 4K center, four elementary schools (5K-4), two intermediate schools (5-6), one middle school (7-8) and one high school (9-12). To learn more about the Kimberly Area School District, call (920)788-7900 or visit www.kimberly.k12.wi.us.