



MEDIA CONTACT:  
Nicole Noonan  
Marketing & Community Coordinator  
(920) 788-7900  
nnoonan@kimberly.k12.wi.us

425 S. WASHINGTON STREET  
COMBINED LOCKS WI 54113

(920) 788-7900  
FAX (920) 788-7919

www.kimberly.k12.wi.us

## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Manufacturing Their Future at Kimberly High School

**Kimberly, Wis. – March 5, 2019** – A visit to the technology education department at [Kimberly High School](#)

(KHS) isn't complete without seeing the machining classrooms inside the school and the welding shop, a separate building located directly behind the school. After students complete the course curriculum, they design and manufacture projects related to their interests. The workstations are full of students learning the hands-on skills related to the different aspects of their projects – designing, cutting, welding and grinding. Some of the projects student manufacture include custom signs, tables, fire pits and grills.

Kimberly has a strong technology education program where students learn how to use a manual mill and lathe, Computer Numeric Control (CNC) milling machine, CNC lathe, CNC router, CNC plasma cutter, laser engraver/cutter and 3D printers. Students can also learn how to use high-end graphics printing/cutting machines, photography and video production equipment along with the latest software used in industry, including 3D modeling and Adobe software products.

The equipment and skills that students develop are enhanced by a focus on employability skills. As part of their curriculum, educators teach students about the importance of:

- Strong work ethic



Last year, students Jakob Doering, Gabby Weyer and Dylan Berben earned 1<sup>st</sup> place at the SkillsUSA State competition in welding fabrication for this firepit they designed and manufactured.

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- Positive attitude
- Good communication skills
- Time management
- Problem solving skills
- Self confidence
- Ability to accept and learn from criticism
- Organization skills

Due to a growing interest in the manufacturing field, spurred by the efforts of educators, industry partners and families, student demand for technology education courses fueled several updates to Kimberly High School facilities in the last seven years. First was the addition of the welding shop in 2012, then in 2015 classrooms and restrooms were added to the technology education wing. In 2017, the District updated the work stations and HVAC systems in the welding shop in order to increase student capacity.

With the recent upgrade to the welding shop and new CNC equipment acquired over the last two years, teachers are working to develop additional student learning activities utilizing the new equipment. Luke Smith, a technology education teacher, participated in a “Train the Teacher” welding program at Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC). This course gave high school welding instructors a deeper knowledge and skill set in the field, along with starting them on the path to be able to teach FVTC dual credit courses to their students.



Teacher Luke Smith (right) helps student Andrew Kieffer with the new CNC plasma cutter at Kimberly High School.

The [technology education department](#) at Kimberly High School has many different areas for students to explore. “We have skilled and knowledgeable teachers working on consistently improving all areas of the technology education department,” said Smith. Students can take a variety of courses as they explore career paths at KHS:

- Metals/machining
- Welding

- Building construction
- Architecture and engineering
- Photography and video production
- Graphic communications

Students in the [Kimberly Area School District](#) have access to a variety of equipment and experiences in the manufacturing field allowing them to learn more about themselves and career options in order to graduate prepared for their future.

### **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](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us).