## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Media Contact:**

Ryan Jarvi Director of Communication Northwest Education Services 231.922.6242 | rjarvi@NorthwestEd.org

## Career Tech Students Complete MHSAA Coaching Program

**TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.** – High school students considering careers in education had the opportunity to bring their games to the next level with the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). Sixteen Career Tech Teacher Academy and Early Education students took the opportunity to enrich their training with <u>coaching certification clinics</u> offered in January and March at Northwest Education Services (North Ed).

The Career Tech students were offered the comprehensive coaching education as part of the Coaches Advancement Program (CAP) through MHSAA. These students are the first to complete the course required for certification, which can lead them to become eligible to coach varsity sports for many high schools across the state of Michigan:

- Lorelai Albertson, Mesick High School
- Kaylee Carson, Mesick High School
- Kaelyn Dunham, Lake Leelanau St. Mary
- Emily Grant, Lake Leelanau St. Mary
- Kayla Greene, Mesick High School
- Jillian Hillier, Mesick High School
- Joey Hornback, Mesick High School
- Lucia Izaguirre, Traverse City Central High School
- Megan Manley, Mesick High School
- Avery Mayer, Kingsley High School
- Seth Maynard, Mesick High School
- Emma Moser, Mancelona High School
- Ben Parrish, Mesick High School
- Katelynn Sexton, Mesick High School
- Ashtyn Simerson, Mesick High School
- Logan Wienclaw, Mesick High School

"The addition of MHSAA athletic coaching certification broadens the opportunities for these students as they gain educational experience in the classroom that can support them in the athletic arena as well," said Career Tech Teacher Academy instructor Susan O'Connor. "Providing high school students with this opportunity gives them a headstart as they prepare for their future careers in our schools and as future leaders of our athletics programs."

Career Tech Teacher Academy is a national award-winning, two-year program that gives students the opportunity to gain early exposure to teaching as a career. The program averages 80 students each year who participate in educational theory, research and psychology coursework. Teacher Academy students are placed in area classrooms, typically in their own local districts, to assist seasoned teachers who can mentor the students and benefit from a fresh approach to education. Early Education students focus on human growth and development, and explore best practices for teaching developmental skills to the youngest learners.

CAP provides up to 36 hours of professional development designed to train coaches in the many facets of coaching school sports. The curriculum addresses the philosophies of school sports, communications skills, legal issues, the psychology of coaching, sports medicine and first aid, working effectively with parents, teaching skills, healthy living, emotional control and character. The completion of Level 1 and Level 2 CAP training provides certified eligibility for individuals to coach varsity sports at all MHSAA member schools.

For more information about North Ed Career Tech Teacher Academy or Early Education programs, go to <a href="https://www.NorthwestEd.org/career\_tech">www.NorthwestEd.org/career\_tech</a>

MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation that exists to develop common rules for athletic eligibility and competition for more than 1,600 public and private high schools and middle schools.

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North Ed Career Tech offers <u>21 programs</u> to high school juniors and seniors from Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau counties. Students are educated in career and technical fields offering hands-on practical experiences, job shadowing, career exploration and early college opportunities, along with rigorous academic integration. For more information about North Ed Career Tech, <u>click here</u>.