

THE MONARCH TIMES

Issue 1: Fall, 2021



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Welcome to and welcome back to Mercy Tech! We achieved our goal for this 2021-2022 school year: to have all students return to campus for a normal school routine. Every precaution has been taken to ensure the health and safety of every member of our Mercy Family.

A major undertaking was the renovation of the 3rd floor of Mercy East, which you will see more of in this issue.

All faculty and staff began the school year fully vaccinated and as of today, the student population is 83% vaccinated. We are working toward 100%, since vaccinations make the full CTE experience possible.

A new school year feels like a fresh start—a time to explore new possibilities, establish goals, and set priorities. It's significant that we accomplish these within a faith-based environment and in the context of the world around us. Amidst the daily buzz of our day-to-day, in the halls, on mask breaks, during the walk from Mercy East to Mercy Main, let's take time to get to know each other, to learn from each other's curiosity, and most importantly, to be kind to each other. Together, these encounters build the trust that allows people to take creative and intellectual risks, which can result in new ideas that can change the world. You, Men and Women of Mercy, have the energy, ability and opportunity to do just that!

God bless your beginnings!

Meet Our New Faculty

This year, we welcome additions to our faculty, some of whom are in the renovated Mercy East classrooms!

Listed clockwise:

Whitley Kels: Business Instructor
Robert Wiacek: Building Trades Instructor
Keith Beaver: Theology Instructor
Sr. Marta McDonnell: Community Service Instructor
Liz Dowling: Physical Science Instructor
Barbara Corbo: Language Arts/Social Studies Instructor
Letana Brown: Language Arts Instructor



Welcome Class of 2025



What a beautiful day to welcome our incoming 9th grade class. We're excited to see you all Become Men and Women of Mercy during the next four years and beyond.

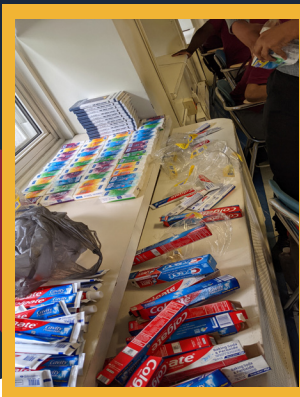
Mercy Career & Technical High School provides a Catholic education and a comprehensive academic, career and technical experience which prepares students for the workforce and/or post-secondary education. Compelled by Mercy, faculty and students live the Gospel in word and action and promote service to others. Mercy Career & Technical High School graduates a highly competent, compassionate, contributing member of the global community.

Technology

Tech pushes forward with a new Wi-Fi initiative, blanketing the school with the latest wireless technology. The anticipated completion of the project is Spring, 2022!

Theology/Service

One of our Mercy Week activities is assembling 50 care packages for the Catholic Worker Free Clinic and include messages of motivation and support!



Mercy Week



What better event to celebrate this Mercy Week than Sr. Marianna's 70 years of service! service!

Admissions

The Office of Admissions is excited to announce our Application for 2022-23 School Year is now open. In June 2021, Sister Rosemary launched our Admissions Season from our front steps here at W. Hunting Park Avenue. Interested Families can apply by heading to our website at www.mercytc.org/admissions. Once you apply, you will be asked to submit your 6th and 7th Final Report Cards, any standardized test scores and a 7th Grade Teacher Recommendation.

Current families, the Mercy Referral Discount is available for this application cycle. If an applicant applies to Mercy Tech, includes your student's name on their application, and ends up attending Mercy Tech, you will receive a \$250 tuition credit. Applicants CAN NOT be a relative. You may obtain a maximum of 4 referrals.

For any inquiries or questions around Admissions, please contact
admissions@mercytc.org.

Ring Mass

In September, we celebrated Ring mass in person at Holy Innocents Church.
It was wonderful to be able to gather in person this year!



Guidance

“Tools & Tips for Going Back to School”

<https://tinyurl.com/yp6shn66>

Bus Kings

You may have seen our fully-designed Septa bus last year. Through most of the summer, we ran on the sides of the bus, throughout Philadelphia. Check it out here:



Do you or someone you know have a love of art and design? We've got the program for you! Visit <https://www.mercycte.org/cte-programs/advertising-art-web-design> to learn more!

Mercy East Renovation



Mercy Tech has returned to in-person learning with COVID-19 safety protocols. In order to have enough room to keep students socially distanced, Mercy Tech renovated five classrooms on the third floor of Mercy East, allowing the freshman class a space for academics.

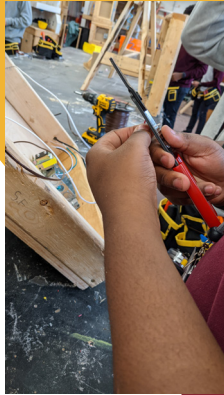
This project had help from our current building trade students. They helped with clean out, some demolition, and the students ran electrical for new lights and ceiling fans. Mercy Tech also had free help from the Finishing Trades Institute. Painter apprentices used these classrooms to learn the art of painting.

Kudos to Matt Trzaska, Mercy Tech class of 1990, for connecting FTI with Mercy Tech to make this happen.

James J. Clearkin, Inc. served as the general contractor for the entire project. They performed or oversaw all the work on the project including carpentry, ceiling restoration, floor refinishing, electrical, painting, etc., and fully appreciated the help they got from our students and faculty on the demo and electrical work, not to mention the apprentice painters.

SHOP SPOTLIGHT

BUILDING TRADES



Building Trades is one of our most popular shops here at Mercy Tech.

This program provides skills needed for the building trades, property maintenance, and construction fields.

Students gain relevant classroom and hands-on experience, build a strong work ethic and practice employable skills.

These students will go on to earn their NCCER certification (National Center for Construction Education & Research) as well as OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration).

Want to learn more about the Building Trades program? Visit <https://www.mercycte.org/cte-programs/building-trades>

Advertising Arts and Web Design



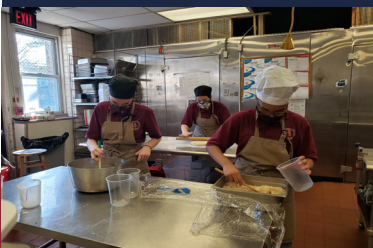
Business



Computer Tech



Culinary



Nursing



Cosmotology



Thank You, Generous Sponsors!

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the first Virtual Fall Fundraiser on October 7, 2021 such an amazing success! This year's event brought together students, faculty, alumni, and the comedy of Joe Conklin, to raise over \$370,000 to ensure the excellence and affordability of a Mercy Tech education.

If you missed this inspiring event, you can still watch it at your convenience. You can find the link at: <http://mercycte.org/giving/virtual-fall-fundraiser>

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URBAN GARDENING AT MERCY TECH!

The garden is growing at Mercy Tech thanks to the hard work of the Environmental Club and a \$1,000 grant from the Catholic Climate Covenant.

Environmental Club members held a virtual prayer service for Earth Day on April 22nd. Club members, with help from Building Trades students, dismantled the old greenhouse on the southwest corner of the main building. Of the five planting beds built, four beds were created from pieces of the old greenhouse.

Students raised bean plants from seedlings in the science lab and planted them in the outdoor beds along with a variety of young vegetable plants. These activities were integrated into the biology curriculum.

A late summer harvest from the gardens produced vegetables and wildflowers that were used in the Culinary & Pastry Arts program and taken home by faculty and staff.

“Our students worked hard and continue to be committed to gardening activities that preserve our local environment,” said Amanda Muir, Science teacher and Environmental Club moderator. “And we are grateful to the Catholic Climate Covenant whose generous support made this possible.”



MERCY TECH FLEECE

Interested in buying a fleece? The Mery Tech fleece is heather gray with an embroidered logo. Many sizes are available. Additional sizes can be ordered. Please bring \$20 to Mrs. Vollaro's office, directly across from the elevator on the 1st floor, in the main building.



Voted 2021 “Best Trade School
in Philadelphia” by *Metro Philly*
readers.



Created by Kylah E. Warrick, Senior Advertising Art & Web Design Student