

Catching Up With . . .

District 94
Career & Technical
Education
Division

Former Business Students at WCCHS

The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight former students' accomplishments in the business field after getting their start by taking our courses here at West Chicago.

The Business Department offers a wide variety of courses ranging from computer based classes, to accounting, to work experience. All courses strive to be hands on, practical, and implement real world scenarios in the curriculum.

Students who enroll in business classes at West Chicago gain valuable skills that will benefit them in future high school courses, college,

and in the workplace.

Below is a list of our current courses offerings:

- Computer Apps I
- Computer Apps II
- Multimedia Design
- Technical Support Internship (TSI)
- AP Computer Science Principles
- Introduction to Business
- Marketing
- Accounting
- Business Law
- CWT/BTI (Work Experience)
- Consumer Education
- Investments



Kyle Molskow, Class of 2011

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November 17, 2016

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Michelle Leitherer—Class of 2005

Michelle Leitherer graduated from West Chicago Community High School in 2005. After high school she attended Kendall College and in 2009 received a Bachelor of Science degree in Hospitality Management/Event Planning.

She is currently a **Senior**

Account Management Specialist at the **Hub Group** in Oakbrook. Hub Group is the largest Intermodal Marketing Company in North America. In her current position Michelle manages 20 different accounts and coordinates all aspects of her client's moves with the company.

While a student at WeGo Michelle took several business courses including **Accounting, Keyboarding, BTI, and Computer Applications**. She also was an active member of **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** competing at the state level and qualifying for the National Competition in Dallas.

When reflecting on her time in high school Michelle states, "*The business classes I took while at Community High School were extremely helpful in preparing me for my college courses and in my career. Not only did they help me for college but they set me up for success in the real world, which was invaluable.*"

Tim Kotche—Class of 2011

Tim Kotche graduated from West Chicago Community High School in 2011. He attended the University of Illinois graduating in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. In 2016 he completed his Master of Accounting Science degree.

Tim currently works as an **Auditor** at **Ernst & Young** in Chicago. In this position he is responsible for providing reasonable assurance to shareholders and the general public that corporation's financial statements are fairly presented in all material aspects. He helps his engagement team achieve results by testing internal controls and performing substantive tests on financial statement accounts.



As a student at West Chicago, Tim took **Keyboarding, Consumer Education, and Marketing**. He also was a member of **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** all four years, participated at the state level multiple years, and served as an officer his senior year.

Looking back on his high school career, Tim says, “WeGo business classes and FBLA confirmed that I wanted to major in business in college. College classes are fast paced so any prior business experience will help give you the right mindset and provide a jump on college learning.” Tim also credits his experience in computer classes as being a valuable skill he currently uses that was acquired in high school.

Angela Gentile—Class of 2010

Angela Gentile graduated from West Chicago Community High School in 2010. She attended Illinois State University graduating in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Family & Consumer Science Education. After teaching at West Aurora High School for two years she returned to WeGo this fall as a **Family & Consumer Science Teacher**.

As a student at West Chicago Angela took several business courses including **Keyboarding, Computer Applica-**

“The business teachers at WeGo are extremely knowledgeable, personable, and helpful. I am thrilled to now call them ‘colleagues’.”

—Angela Gentile, Class of 2010

tions, Marketing, and BTI. She also participated in Skills USA and competed in multiple regional and state competitions.

In reflecting on her Business Education experience in high school Angela says, “Business classes at WeGo truly prepared me for college, my workplace, and beyond. I not only learned how to properly use various computer applications, but I also learned how to obtain a job in a professional matter. Whether it be writing an adequate resume, or learning the interview process, I would not be as prepared today without these classes or teachers.”

Kyle Molskow—Class of 2011

Kyle Molskow graduated from West Chicago Community High School in 2011. He then went on to earn an degree in Finance at the University of Illinois in 2015. After having several internships in college, Kyle accepted a job with **Navigant Consulting** as a **Performance Excellence Consultant** in the Corporate Services work stream. He is currently helping a healthcare systems company in San Francisco with strategy and operations to increase revenue and reduce costs.

As a student at West Chicago Kyle took many business courses including **Introduction to Business, Business Law, Marketing, and Consumer Education**. In addition to his coursework he was the President of **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** and qualified and competed at Nationals in Orlando in Management Decision Making.

Kyle says his high school business courses prepared him well for college and the workplace. He states, “High

school business classes developed my passion for business that helped mold me into the person I am today. I can’t explain how valuable those classes are . . . I only wish I had taken more, especially Accounting! Starting business classes in high school will put students ahead of the curve when transitioning into college and lead to continued success in the work place.”

We are proud of Kyle and all of our alumni success in college and the workplace!