

Merit Award

Misty Bannow

Auto Body

Van Buren Technology Center

Dowagiac Union High School

Nominator: Robbyn Candelaria, School Counselor/

Career Guidance Coordinator



"If it had a motor, I was ready to dive in and take it apart. I wanted to know how things worked and how to make it go faster." Misty mentions several reasons she enrolled at the Van Buren Technology Center in the Auto Body program. Her program at the Center has allowed her to experience a sample of what is involved in this career field and has provided valuable training that she will be able to use in pursuing further education.

Misty has a love for horses and she participates in many extra-curricular activities. She is heavily involved in numerous equine events. In addition, Misty volunteers for various community projects, including roadside cleanup and helping to decorate the town's downtown district. Her counselor, Robbyn Candelaria, describes Misty as humble, self-determined, and having a strong sense of personal integrity.

After graduation, Misty plans to enroll at Lincoln College of Technology in Indianapolis, Indiana. She also plans to continue her employment with an auto collision center to gain further hands-on experience. These are all assets that will lead her toward her goal of successful business ownership.



Opening the door to
opportunity can change
the world.

~ Misty Bannow