

Stephanie Marie Wazny

Automotive Technician

Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center

Community High School

Nominator: Dwane Gilbert, Instructor



Stephanie grew up around cars. She remembers being six years old, going to the shop with her dad, and how interesting all the vehicles were. She is surrounded by a family of mechanics, but when she first enrolled in the program at the center, it was to gain information about cars, not necessarily to pursue a career in this industry. Her instructors, Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Schauld, have inspired her to make this her life's work.



Stephanie has been picked on and told that she will not succeed because she is a female. These obstacles have made her more resilient. She works harder to prove that a female can not only match but exceed the males in her program. Stephanie is an honor student with perfect attendance awards. She has been selected multiple times as student of the week. She is a member of SkillsUSA and competed this Spring. She has also led tours of 4th and 8th grade visitations. She has helped other females become interested in the automotive program.

Stephanie plans to attend the University of Northwestern Ohio to pursue an auto/diesel technician diploma. Ultimately, she would like to earn a bachelors degree and work for an automotive or heavy equipment manufacturer.