



Tyler Lawrence Ax

Early Childhood Education

Allegan County Area Technical and Education Center

Allegan High School

Nominator: Sally Henderson, Instructor

Tyler is a junior at Allegan High School, where he plays varsity football and was on the wrestling team. Tyler has a black belt in Taekwondo and qualified for the Taekwondo national tournament. After visiting the Center open house, he enrolled in Early Childhood Education to help him decide on a career direction. He wants to become a physical education teacher or perhaps a physical therapist.

Tyler has taught Taekwondo classes, which first sparked his interest in teaching. He enjoys watching the students master the skills he has taught them. In his Tech Center program, he excelled in the Head Start lab and is doing an internship at an elementary school with a Physical Education/Computer teacher. This experience has shown him what it is like to be a traveling teacher working at two schools.

Tyler is also earning 14 early college credits through Lake Michigan College while in this program. He has become certified in Red Cross CPR/AED and first aid.

In addition, Tyler has overcome some personal physical challenges when it was discovered that he had an inherited hip deformity requiring surgery, and started his freshman year of high school in a wheel chair. Because of this event, he relates to children with physical limitations.

Tyler has already visited several colleges, including Western Michigan University, Calvin College, and Manchester College. Although he is still undecided about which career to pursue, he knows that he will always be interested in teaching/coaching.



“It’s your life. Make your own decisions.”

~ Tyler Ax