



We are pleased to share these three wonderful stories below:

First is an announcement that two outstanding Massachusetts vocational technical students are recipients of National Scholarships. Only two postsecondary and two high schools students were selected by the SkillsUSA/National Technical Honor Society scholarship committee. We are very proud that the two were from the Commonwealth!

Congratulations Melanie Sola, Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, and Brandon Kee, Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, for being selected as the high school division winners of the SkillsUSA/National Technical Honor Society Scholarships.

David

A graphic announcement for the 2020 NTHS Scholarship Winners. It features a central white rectangular area with a red and blue geometric border on the left and right sides. The text is centered within the white area. At the bottom of the white area are three logos: SkillsUSA, NTHS, and the National Technical Honor Society. To the right of the white area is a large SkillsUSA logo.

**2020 NTHS Scholarship
Winners**

College/postsecondary:

- Foster Lester, Atlanta Technical College, Ga.
- Kevin Romo, Francis Tuttle Technology Center Reno Campus, Okla.

High School:

- Brandon Kee, Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High, Mass.
- Melanie Sola, Madison Park Technical Vocational High, Mass.

  



Friends of Vocational Technical & Agricultural Education,

On March 23rd we reported that South Shore Vocational Technical High School had been fabricating face shields on their 3D printers to assist with the Coronavirus pandemic. Jerry Shaw, Engineering teacher at South Shore Regional Vocational Technical High School in Hanover, and his team have been making them since.

They are currently producing approximately 80 a day with weekly infusions of about 100 to 150 from people with home 3D printers. They hit a total of 1,000 shields given away on April 13th.

The face shields have been going out to 35 different locations, and growing, including South Shore Hospital, Brockton Hospital, fire departments in Scituate, Hanover and Cohasset, among others, as well as police departments, nursing homes, and more, according to Jerry Shaw.

Want to help? Anyone with a spare 3D printer that would like to assist in the effort can contact Jerry Shaw at jshaw@ssvotech.org.

MAVA congratulates Jerry, Tom Hickey (Superintendent), Lisa Bellantoni, (classroom aide), Paul Bello, (head of Business Outreach), Dean of Students Rob Mello, and IT Coordinator Crystal Paluzzi who to help to assemble and deliver the shields and get the word out to the community. A special thank you to all those in the community fabricating shields from their home 3D printers!

David

3D FACE SHIELD
EXPERIMENTAL & EDUCATIONAL APPLICATIONS



3D face shields at SSVT

Jerry Shaw is the Engineering teacher at South Shore Regional Vocational Technical High School in Hanover. He and his team are making face shields.

“Since we have the manufacturing technology we were looking to find the best way to help out healthcare workers and first responders,” he said.

“When we started building these on March 20 we conducted research of the most effective method with the capabilities we had, and face shields were it.”

They consolidated all of their 3D printers in the school into Shaw’s classroom and 3D print the structure of the face shield in plastic then use overhead transparency sheets as the main shield.

Shaw runs the machines, design and coordination of several other makers and schools throughout the state to build these shields and is being helped daily by Lisa Bellantoni, classroom aide, and Paul Bello, head of Business Outreach, to assemble and deliver the shields.

“Many others, including Superintendent Tom Hickey, Dean of Students Rob Mello, and IT Coordinator Crystal Paluzzi have been assisting in getting the word out,” Shaw said. “We have been also working with area residents and vocational schools across the state to produce these locally as well.”

The face shields are being made in Shaw’s classroom at the high school, he said.

“We are the only ones allowed in the school at the current moment for this purpose and I’ve been going in 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day to construct and produce my online classes.”

SSVT is an ideal location for such an endeavor as there are a lot of machines and manufacturing knowledge there.

“When the pandemic broke, Tom Hickey opened up the idea of constructing PPE for those who need it and I was motivated to run with it,” Shaw said.

“It allows me to provide assistance instead of feeling helpless.”

The face shields have been going out to 35 different locations, and growing, including South Shore Hospital, Brockton Hospital, fire departments in

Scituate, Hanover and Cohasset, among others, as well as police departments, nursing homes, and more, according to Shaw.

“We are currently producing approximately 80 a day with weekly infusions of about 100 to 150 from people with home 3D printers. We will be hitting 1,000 shields given away on April 13,” he said.

The plan is to keep doing this until manufacturing ramps up.

“We currently have a backlog of requests through next week so we don’t see it ending very soon,” Shaw said. “While 3D printers are not the most efficient way to manufacture these shields they are what we currently have that can be deployed rapidly.”

Anyone with a spare 3D printer that would like to assist in the effort can contact Jerry Shaw at jshaw@sstvotech.org.

We are pleased to share a very interesting story published in the “Salem News”. With the pandemic, students in our agricultural high schools are home as are teachers, however, nature having taken its course, it's the birthing season for sheep.



David

The Circle of Life goes on at Essex Tech

• By Julie Manganis Staff Writer

 THE SALEM NEWS

April 2020

DANVERS — With most people calling the school by its new nickname, Essex Tech, it's easy to forget sometimes that its full name is the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School.

That means some students are there to learn how to care for animals in their veterinary and animal care programs. And that, in turn, means that there are animals on the Danvers campus.

With most of the humans gone from the closed campus, however, and nature having taken its course, it's the birthing season for sheep.

Two "girls," Hermione and Ginny, and two "boys," Weasley and Potter, were born to moms Lambert and Eweminem this week at the school's barn.

Superintendent Heidi Riccio said they are just four of the 15 to 20 lambs that are due this month at the school.

"We're thankful to see that the lambs are healthy, and look forward to the arrival of several other lambs in the coming days," said Riccio.

Sheep do not usually require a veterinarian to give birth to lambs, but staff have been on campus to monitor, feed and check on the animals, sometimes using remote cameras to watch over the flock.

Those overseeing the lambs and sheep have included supervisor of farm and grounds Wesley Leavitt and farmhands Alyssa Hajek-Jones and Jason Girard. Several co-op students have also taken part in caring for the animals in the past several months, including Sunny Marcus, Dylan Elms and Emily Eberhardt. Coronavirus has kept them from watching the births, but Riccio said she wants to credit them for their work.

"I'd like to thank the staff who have kept tending and watching over our animals here at Essex Tech, even in the unique situation we're facing today with the COVID-19 pandemic," Riccio said.

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