

COOKING UP SUCCESS FOR THE FUTURE

THE NORTH IOWA CORRIDOR Board of Directors and staff were recently treated to a remarkable Valentine's Day themed luncheon planned, prepared and served by the Culinary I, II and III Students at Mason City High School.

The Culinary Program, designed and taught by instructor Cynthia Gealow, was started by Gealow 5 years ago and is thriving. Students in the program learn about nutrition, cooking techniques, safety and sanitation principles and food-service career opportunities.

Culinary I students are instructed on a wide range of introductory topics, from cooking and baking techniques to plate presentation. Culinary II students study dining environments, customer service, food management and cook in labs that offer up a menu

including soups, pastas and sauces, meats, specialty desserts and buffet presentations.

Culinary III students have the most intense, project-based program. Students study a wide range of topics and even operate a bakery. The Mohawk Bakery is held every Friday at MCHS. Students plan and prepare all week long and then open up the bakery on Friday mornings to their fellow students and staff members. The bakery sells student-baked goods such as brownies, cupcakes, cookies and much more. All of the funds raised through the bakery are invested back into the program.

"We had an amazing meal prepared by the culinary program students," said Corridor President Chad Schreck. "It was incredible to sample all of the student's hard work and hear about the passions that this program sparks for student's future career plans."



VISION NORTH IOWA

Vision North Iowa is a newly formed initiative to create a multi-jurisdictional strategy for regional economic growth and prosperity formed by the North Iowa Corridor, Mason City Chamber of Commerce, Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, and several community partners. Austin and Seattle-based TIP Strategies has been engaged to guide the project.

The effort is in its infancy, but EDC personnel and TIP consultants conducted nine focus groups, meeting with over 100 people, in Mason City and Clear Lake in mid-February. The next steps involve the input from citizens. They are asking North Iowans to complete a brief survey.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT:

Please fill out the survey at www.visionnorthiowa.com



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