TECH TEAM NEWSLETTER
JAN 2025

HAPPY 2025!

To kick of the new year, John Ross took time during the drop-in meeting on January 21st, to review all of the excellent resources we have available to help your team thrive. Take a look at them below:

- Tech Team website
- Industry-developed Tech Certifications
- CTE Curricula for IT Fundamentals+, Computers and Engineering I & II
- Self-paced, student-facing materials based on 12 competencies related to IT Fundamentals+
- Activity Guides to help promote inter- and intrapersonal skills and support customer service
- Help Ticket Flowchart (PDF | PNG)
- Supplemental Interactive Activities that address skills for certification but may not require a computer
- Expanding the Tech Team Opportunity to ALL Students
- Digital Ambassador Course with five modules available in Canvas, Google Docs, and this Google Site. (Revised December 2024)
- Branding & Marketing Toolkit and Playbook by Dr. Kendall Latham
  - Branding & Marketing Toolkit
  - Industry and Business Partnerships
  - Micro PD
  - Industry Spotlight Gallery

NCBCE also has funding available for any equipment needs your team has, so if you have not done so already, please reach out to Sam Saunders to learn how you can order equipment. Our next meeting will be held February 18.

To watch the meeting recording, click **here**.

KINSTON TEENS DIGITAL EQUITY CORP + DIGITAL EQUITY COORDINATOR

Kinston Teens is a youth-led and youth-serving nonprofit organization in Kinston, NC. Started in 2014, the organization has started a number of youth programs, most recently the Digital Equity Corps program which aims to bridge the digital divide in the Kinston community. This program will empower youth by providing access to technology, digital literacy training, and essential resources to thrive in today's digital age. The program will target those aged 16-24 years old but will also feature training and resources for folks of all ages.

To support this initiative, Kinston Teens is hiring a Digital Equity Coordinator to lead and manage this transformative program. They are looking for someone who has a willingness to work with youth and marginalized communities, a background in education or technology, and is excited about launching a new program. This full-time opportunity would be a great option for a graduated Tech Team student. If any of your former students might be interested in the role, please point them towards the Kinston Teens career page.

KINSTON TEENS

ESTABLISHED 2014

STUDENT PODCAST CHALLENGE

The National Public Radio (NPR) has opened up submissions for its annual Student Podcast Challenge. Students anywhere in the United States from grades 4-12 are invited to produce and submit a podcast for a chance to have their work featured on NPR. Teacher involvement is required to compete and the deadline for submission is May 2, 2025.

To learn more about the challenge and listen to past winners, please visit the NPR Student Podcast Challenge website.

NC CAREER LAUNCH

NCBCE has recently received a 4-year grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to kickstart youth pre-apprenticeships throughout North Carolina! A pre-apprenticeship is very similar to a standard apprenticeship, but it allows students to participate in the work-based learning experience while they are still completing their diploma. One of the areas

NCBCE is focused on creating pre-apprenticeship opportunities in is technology, meaning Tech Team students can easily transition into a tech pre-apprenticeship if they are ready to take that next step. Some Tech Teams have already taken advantage of this opportunity with their students starting their pre-apprenticeships this year!.

If you are interested in learning more about pre-apprenticeships and what this grant can offer, please visit the NC Career Launch website. You can also reach out to Sam Saunders or Morgan Crawford to discuss how to bring pre-apprenticeships to your school district.

DATA PRIVACY WEEK

January 27 – 31 is Data Privacy Week! This annual initiative focuses on building privacy awareness and empowering individuals and organizations to respect privacy, protect data and strengthen public trust. The NC Department of Information Technology shared these tips to help protect data privacy:

- Review and manage privacy settings. Each device, application or browser has different features to limit how and with whom data is shared. It is important to check these regularly and adjust them as needed. You can use these direct links to update settings on popular devices and online services.

- Streamline your online presence. Delete inactive accounts and apps you do not use. They may still be collecting and sending data. Disable tracking and turn off location services when you are not using them. Keep all software, operating systems and apps that you do use up to date.

- Read the fine print. Read the privacy policy and terms of use for any application you plan to use. Be thoughtful about who is allowed access to your personal information. Make sure you understand and agree with how your information will be used.

- Share with care. Think before posting information about yourself or others. Consider what the post reveals, who might see it and how it could be perceived now and in the future. Remember that information you post online may never fully be removed, and social media privacy settings may not stop your posts from being shared by others. Never share personal information that you use for security purposes, such as your date of birth or the name of your first pet or teacher, in online quizzes.

- Be intelligent about artificial intelligence. While AI can be a helpful tool, it is important to remember that AI systems learn from user inputs. You should not share any personal or financial information, sensitive personal data from your workplace or intellectual property with publicly available AI.

For more information and other helpful links, visit it.nc.gov/privacy.

OCTOBER 10TH:
DIGITAL AMBASSADOR SUMMIT

WATCH HERE

Password: quCU*O=U

OCTOBER STUDENT WEBINAR OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

WATCH HERE

SEPTEMBER STUDENT WEBINAR ON CYBERSECURITY

WATCH HERE

TECH ★ TEAM
NC STUDENT CONNECT