

## **Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board**

For more information, visit [www.bawib.org](http://www.bawib.org)

BAWIB's Connecting Activities Partnership (CAP) brokered 273 internships with over 129 businesses that helped guide youth in college and career readiness. BAWIB has a longstanding relationship with the Metro South Chamber of Commerce to assist BAWIB Staff and School Liaisons with business connections. CAP is fully integrated with YouthWorks, the Youth One-Stop Career Center, which is a one stop shop for all BAWIB youth programs and provides services under Title I of the Dept. of Labor. YouthWorks gives the partner schools and youth ages 14 - 24 in the Brockton Service Area instant access to the resources in the Center which includes area job postings, the resource room computer lab and employer partners. The schools can also set-up work readiness, life skills, career development and other educational or career focused workshops for their students.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Career Exploration Event with Bridgewater State University's Center for the Advancement of STEM Education (CASE) was held on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. A total 94 students from Avon-Middle High School (AMHS), Brockton High School (BHS), Independence Academy (IA), Keith Center (KC), Southeastern Reg. Voc. Tech. High School (SRHS), and South Shore Voc. Tech. High School (SSHS) attended this event. Youth traveled from table to table to participate in a "speed networking" style setting and converse for 8-10 minutes with fourteen different professionals from the STEM field. A keynote address was delivered by Dr. Kristen Porter-Utley, Dean of College of Science and Math at Bridgewater State University. Tours of the University's Multimillion Science Building were also given.

BAWIB held their 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecting Activities Career Day Conference on April 4, 2017 at the Stacy Adams Cultural Arts Building in Brockton, MA. The Conference is designed to build stronger connections between schools, businesses and the community. This year BAWIB morphed the Career Day into a mini conference, to include career readiness breakout sessions. The students were encouraged to dress for success and show their best business attires during this event for a chance to be entered in a raffle. Over 160 students from AMHS, BHS, Edison Academy (EA), KC, SRHS, Stoughton High School (SHS), and Whitman-Hanson Regional High School (WHHS) attended this event. The students had the opportunity to rotate between workshops and career expo tables. The workshops the students participated in were Acing the Interview and Social Media Presence. For the career expo portion of the conference, the students had the opportunity to explore careers from 35 different businesses and organizations.

BAWIB's Future Entrepreneurs Series Planning Team hosted their 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Business Plan Competition on May 11, 2017. Contestants pitched their entrepreneurial ideas via PowerPoint at BAWIB, to a panel of four expert judges. The primary goal of this competition is to empower the entrepreneurial spirit among our region's young population and encourage the development of feasible business ideas. The top three awardees were announced on May 30, 2017 and awarded funds for startup materials.

On June 8, 2017, high school students from BHS, KC, SRHS, and SSSH participated in the first ever Brockton Area Construction Career Day at the Brockton Fairgrounds. This event gave students an immersive and hands-on experience while interacting with and learning from industry professionals from a wide range of construction & engineering careers. The students had the opportunity to get up close and personal with large machinery, vehicles, equipment and tools that are used by industry professionals in these specific fields. Private businesses, city and state departments, utility providers,

and trade schools combined to offer students an in-depth glimpse into what a typical day is like for professionals in these fields.