



## For Immediate Release

October 15, 2018

Contact: Stacy Adado  
Phone: 517.244.1324

### **William & Claire Dart Advanced Manufacturing Center Opens**

On Wednesday, October 3, 2018, Ingham Intermediate School District officially opened the William & Claire Dart Advanced Manufacturing Center at the Wilson Talent Center with a press conference and ribbon cutting ceremony. This new center culminates a nearly two-year project made possible by a \$700,000 matching grant from the Dart Foundation to renovate classroom and laboratory spaces for the Wilson Talent Center's Engineering, Precision Machining and Welding programs.

“The Dart Foundation was pleased to support this renovation project,” says Emily L. Matthews, Dart Foundation Manager. “Providing students with state-of-the-art skilled trades training helps them establish a successful career path in a field that has tremendous need for quality employees.”

Ingham ISD matched the grant with capital projects funds to renovate spaces for Welding Technology and Precision Machining, move the Engineering Technologies program within proximity of the other two programs, create a collaboration space for programs to work together and create a quality control/testing room.

“We are very thankful to the Dart Foundation for investing in our students with this grant,” states Jamie Engel, Executive Director of Career & Technical Education at the Wilson Talent Center. “These new spaces allow for great collaboration among programs, similar to what happens in the manufacturing industry today,” Engel also noted.

Numerous businesses, community members and students were in attendance at the ceremony including representatives from the Dart Foundation, the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Capital Area Manufacturing Council and the Department of Talent & Economic Development for the State of Michigan.



The Wilson Talent Center, operated by Ingham Intermediate School District, offers career and technical education programs for high school juniors and seniors who reside in Dansville, East Lansing, Haslett, Holt, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Stockbridge, Waverly, Webberville and Williamston. Applications are also accepted from Lansing School District, Fowlerville Community Schools and Eaton and Clinton County schools. For more information, visit our website at [www.inghamisd.org/wtc](http://www.inghamisd.org/wtc).

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