



For Immediate Release

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Date: November 30, 2020

WTC Business & Risk Management Student First in the Nation to Pass Exam

Second year students in the Business & Risk Management program at the Wilson Talent Center (WTC) are attempting to earn their Certified Insurance Service Representative (CISR) designation by completing five classes and taking five exams. Certificates are issued after the successful completion of each course, with the CISR designation awarded at the completion of the series. The first of those exams, was in Personal Auto Insurance which allots one hour and thirty minutes to complete. Becca Burch, a senior from Mason High School, completed and passed the exam in thirty minutes, making her the first high school student in the nation to pass the exam on her first attempt according to the National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research, who administers the exam.

Other areas of study the students will be attempting to pass include Insuring Personal Residential, Commercial Casualty I, Life & Health Essentials and Elements of Risk Management. Eight other students from the class passed the exam on their first try as well which consists of fifty questions on Personal Auto Insurance and will receive a certificate. These students include:

- Maddie Mays, Dansville High School
- Alli Hills, Dansville High School
- Adia Smith, East Lansing High School
- Jupiter Charles, Holt High School
- Lucas Mooney, Leslie High School
- Tony Casali, Mason High School
- Taviana Shakoor, Waverly High School
- Jordan Fritz, Waverly High School

"We are extremely proud of our Business & Risk Management students for passing this step in their designations," states Joe Wenzel, principal at the WTC. "These students are extremely focused on their futures, and these certifications empower them to reach their full potential," Wenzel also noted.

The high school CISR program was piloted last year in Texas. Student benefits from the program include potential internships and real-world opportunities in the insurance industry, internationally recognized designation/stackable credentials, potential college credit at 29 university associate programs as well as scholarship and entry-level employment opportunities available through internships and industry based sponsored competitive events. Students from



the WTC are the first high school students in the nation to pass one of the five focus area exams.

"I am so incredibly proud of my students," notes Monique Colizzi, Instructor of Business & Risk Management at the WTC. "The exams the high school students are taking are written at the professional level, the same format adults in the industry are taking. It is extremely rigorous, so to have nearly half of a high school class pass on their first attempt is so rewarding as their instructor. I look forward to the remaining second year students passing this exam on their next attempt," Colizzi also noted.

The Wilson Talent Center, operated by Ingham Intermediate School District, offers on- and off-site 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 [Wilson Talent Center](http://www.inghamisd.org/wtc) (www.inghamisd.org/wtc).

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