



### **For Immediate Release**

Contact: Stacy Adado

May 27, 2021

Phone: 517.244.1324

## **WTC Engineering Students Participate in Student-Led Energy Audit**

Students in the Engineering Technologies program at the Wilson Talent Center (WTC) recently participated in a student-led energy audit program made available through Consumers Energy. Students examined the types of lighting (fluorescent or LED) installed throughout the WTC and then calculated how much energy is consumed to operate the lights in the building as well as how much energy consumption could be reduced if all lights were LED.

The Consumers Energy Student-Led Energy Audit is a free educational program offered to schools. This program offers a few days of training in energy basics, how to do an energy audit of their school building and the opportunity to present their findings. At the WTC, Consumers Energy was represented by Gavin Cornwell, Energy Advisor, and Rachel Dersch, Student-Led Audit Pilot Intern. Cornwell and Dersch covered the concepts of where electricity comes from in Michigan, led a hands-on experiment to see how different light technologies have different energy consumptions, audited the lighting in the building with students and helped them put together a presentation of their findings.

The student's findings of their energy audit were presented to Jamie Engel, Executive Director of Career & Technical Education at the WTC, and Steve Rusnock, Facilities & Safety Director for Ingham ISD. Rusnock and his team will use these findings to identify areas of the building where lighting can be converted from fluorescent to LED to reduce energy consumption as well as costs.

"This was a great program for my students to participate in," notes Paul Guetschow, instructor of Engineering Technologies. "The way we produce and consume electricity is going to be significantly changing in the next 20 years. This Consumers Energy program helped my students see why electrical efficiency is so important and how they can be a part of this change," Guetschow also noted.

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



Ingham Intermediate  
School District

---

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).

###