

Gregory Pernot

Greg teaches in our Technology Education Department at the Fort Atkinson High School where he teaches automotive classes. He is a graduate of Northern Arizona University in 1976 where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Education. His past experience, prior to coming to Fort Atkinson in 2006 included teacher appointments at Stoughton High School and in Dane County AYES program housed at McFarland High School.

Greg's personal educational philosophy is that every student has the ability to learn, but to various levels of expertise. Students must be challenged but education must also bring a level of excitement and passion to the subject being learned.

Greg's students ranged from special needs students to the highest achieving students in a given class.

Greg observes "that in many cases, exposing students to the theory or concept being introduced is made much easier to understand when practical application is demonstrated. When students can actually see the importance of theory and how it relates to the actual working of a system, they then can visualize and understand the application.

In Advanced Automotive classes, the students are required to work in varied capacities within a dealership setting. The working positions that are required to be filled are: 1) the Service Advisor who meets the customer, writes the repair order based on the conversation with the customer, and follows up with the customer after repair completion to ensure the concern was corrected; 2) Secondly, students play the role of the Service Manager who schedules the work each week for the shop, uses the *On*

Demand program to calculate labor and parts estimates, and books the technician pay each week; 3) and Third, students are the Service Technicians who utilize the information from the repair order to diagnose the concern, determine the proper method of repair, and in most cases, complete the repairs.

Greg's students also compete in automotive tournaments such as the Bumper to Bumper Student Top Gun, AAA/Ford Student Automotive Skills, and most recently the Madison College High School Automotive Challenge. In these experiences, students learn how to work as a team! Two very popular automotive co-curricular activities are the High Mileage Vehicle and the Electrathon Competition. In both of these activities, Greg's students have excelled and have been acknowledged at past Board meetings.

From a parent, "There are teachers who truly make a difference in their students' lives. Mr. Pernot is one of them. Our son told us that if it had not been for Mr. Pernot and the

automotive program he would have dropped out of high school. Without him, we know our son would not be the confident student he is today at Fox Valley Technical College.

Dr. Zaspel notes, “At the onset of the 2006 school year, Greg was brought in to build a viable Auto Technology program. He turned a struggling program into one that is thriving in terms of enrollments, student success, and job/training related placements. The automotive department he has built is recognized as one of high quality and his students are repeatedly recognized in regional and state level competitions.”

From Cynthia Sandberg who is the Jefferson County School to Career Coordinator, “Greg is always receptive to ideas and trying new things. He has also reached out to the community and invited them in to help support his program.”

It is with great pleasure, we recommend Greg Pernot as
a candidate for the Kohl Fellowship Award.