

Q104 - New equipment at DHS

Written by Brenden Harris on Thursday, 04 July 2013



Josh Chymy & TW President and CEO Bryan Gendron

A Dryden High School Student is helping out the school, after winning a contest through TW Machine Safety Services.

"Josh Chymy was presented with an 18 inch band saw from TW. It was donated on his behalf to the Dryden High School Technology wing," said principal Kathy McConnachie.

McConnachie notes the contest was run in conjunction with the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board's plan to replace equipment for use in automotive and construction shops. She says at this point, a majority of their equipment has been improved or replaced.

"Most of the equipment at Dryden High School has either been refurbished, because TW has the ability to do that, or it's been replaced. We're up to full capacity of students being embedded in a workplace situation where all of the equipment is industry standard," she said.

The contest was open to all schools in the board, and she says it was exciting to see one of their students win.

"I think it's wonderful that this has happened. It's very exciting that Josh won the band saw for us. There's a nice plaque sitting on the band saw that has his name in it," she said

CKDR - DHS Student Recognized; Shop Class Cashes In

By CKDR News - July 4th, 2013 - 8:13am



The shop class at Dryden High School is now equipped with the latest equipment thanks to student Josh Chymy.

A special presentation was held at DHS Wednesday to recognize the accomplishment of Chymy.

Chymy scored the highest in the district in a Machine Safety Quiz and TW Machine Safety Services in Thunder Bay awarded a new \$6,000 Wood Cutting Band Saw to the shop class.

Chymy says he's proud that he was able to help area students.

He says it's a beautiful piece of equipment to work with and he's happy that future students will be able to use it.

Brian Gemdron is the President of TW Machine Safety Services and says DHS is leading the region in skills trades learning.

He stresses that Dryden is now 100% compliant with Occupational, Health and Safety standards.

Gemdron notes DHS is one of the few schools in Ontario to exceed those standards.

Gemdron stresses the equipment will help mold future workers.

He says there's a severe shortage of skilled trades workers in northwestern Ontario and he hopes students will take advantage of the Band Saw and the state-of-the-art equipment DHS has to offer.

Staff at Dryden High School state that more upgrades are planned for the shop class.

Dryden Observer - Shop safety smarts earn new equipment for DHS

News — 10 July 2013



DHS student Josh Chymy, Machine Safety Services' Bill Ennew and DHS principal Kathy McConnachie. Photo by Amanda McAlpine

By Amanda McAlpine

Josh Chymy, 15 year old Dryden High School student, has won the Machine Safety contest conducted across the Keewatin Patricia District School Board. Dryden High School has received a General International 18" Wood Cutting Band Saw as the prize. Staff and students are excited to have a new saw thanks to Chymy getting the highest grade on a quiz of 25 skill testing questions about machine safety.

"My favourite thing about shop class is being able to put your mind at work, alone or with peers, and come out of with a project you can truly be proud of," Chymy says. "We were taught how to safely operate multiple different tools in the shop, and were able to use them to turn simple pieces of wood into some neat objects."

TW Machine Safety Services provides safe equipment for shop classes in schools across Northwestern Ontario. The Ministry of Labour has specific standards that must be met in every school board.

"Many of these standards are created through a reactive solution by finding out what they need and what they don't need," says Bill Ennew, Manager of Operations, Machine Safety Services, TW.

When an accident occurs, the Ministry investigates why the accident happened and sets proper steps to ensure that it does not happen in any other school.

The Keewatin Patricia School Board asked TW to do a complete audit of the equipment at Dryden High School. With an audit, TW can find out which equipment is compliant in the shop class and which is not.

"Keewatin Patricia really stepped up to the plate," continues Ennew. "Instead of just doing an audit for Dryden High School, they asked us to do one across the board to make sure all schools were safe."

It doesn't mean that there won't be accidents in shop class in the future, but it does mean that the opportunity for those accidents has decreased significantly with TW safety audits.

"We do machine safety across Canada," Ennew says. "It's at the peak of everybody's mind right now. There's been accidents in Ottawa and Toronto, so people are really focused on making sure their students are safe in that environment."