

## A Meeting of the Minds

The Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District (MOISD) offers a Heating Ventilation Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (HVACR) course at Ferris State University's learning laboratory, The Granger Center for Construction and HVACR for school year 2006.

At the end of the 2005 school year local school districts asked the Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District (MOISD) to include Heating Ventilation Refrigeration and Air Conditioning as a part of a new course offered for school year 2006. The hope was to make available more in demand career opportunities for MOISD students.

Partnering with Ferris State University, fourteen students from across the district attend class at Ferris State University's Granger Center for Construction and HVACR under the direction of Bob Person, a Ferris State University HVACR adjunct professor and student aid, HVACR program senior, Nick Roush of Traverse City.

Said Persons "This collaborative program that Ferris HVACR holds with the MOISD Career Center gives a student the chance to learn about the in demand HVACR profession and experience hands on learning in the state-of-the-art Granger Center. Students may then ladder into the HVACR Associate Degree program upon admission into Ferris State University".

Currently the program meets in the afternoon for half the day on campus at Granger. Fourteen Students work in pairs to learn troubleshooting and repair techniques on a large variety of heating and air conditioning systems integrating engineering principles and application of curriculum such as electricity, chemistry, physics and intermediate algebra.

As a result of the team effort of HVACR Instructor, Bob Persons, HVACR Chair, Mike Feutz, and MOISD Principal, Tim Rigling, students are able to get a bird's eye view of one the many unique programs that Ferris State University has to offer right in their own back yard. The partnership is committed to offering local area students the highest level of technical training available in the country and to develop human connections between Ferris State University and the community it serves.

PR, Marketing, and Distance Learning Counselor, Jill Trinklein along with MOISD Career Director, Laura Thebo, have organized six tours for all districts of the MOISD to include school counselors from four area schools who visited the Granger Center for Construction and HVACR in August with Transfer Admissions Counselor, Shari Chamberlain and are seeking to inform students about the hidden career.

Comments, Mike Feutz, HVACR Department Chair, "I believe Woodbridge Ferris said it best; Schools must deal with fundamentals, and build a foundation to furnish a plan for a

possible human structure of beauty, strength and service. Certainly, Bob Persons and MOISD officials were creative in how to implement this unique opportunity to the students of our community,” adding, “Ferris State University HVACR faculty and staff are excited about being able to share with the community the grandeur of Granger and it’s quality programs that offer MOISD Career students a glimpse of what college really is and how spectacular the learning process can be.”