

U.S. Rep. Gallagher: Visits Ahnapee Diesel Center at Luxemburg-Casco

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CASCO, WI – Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI) today visited the newly launched Ahnapee Diesel Center, Wisconsin's first diesel-only high school program. The Ahnapee Diesel Center is one of the only programs available nationwide that provides students with the opportunity to earn dual credits toward high school graduation as well as a one-year technical diploma toward NWTC's Diesel Maintenance Technician (DMT) program. The program also gives students the option to pursue an associate degree or enter the DMT workforce upon graduation.

"America needs more truck drivers to keep our economy moving. Thanks to the partnership between NWTC and the Luxemburg-Casco School District, the Ahnapee Diesel Center is at the forefront of recruiting and training the next generation of truckers. It was great to be able to tour the center and meet with students and educators alike about the opportunities this program creates in our community. We're lucky to have this innovative program right in our own backyard," said Rep. Gallagher.

Trucking is one of the fastest-growing industries in the United States but is experiencing a shortage of qualified diesel technicians to keep the equipment up and running. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics bureau projects nearly 30,000 job openings each year between now and 2030 for diesel service technicians and mechanics.

"It's important that we equip our K12 students with the knowledge of career opportunities and the resources to achieve it," said Dr. Kathryn Rogalski, NWTC vice president of student learning. "Dual credit programs provide that pathway, saving students thousands of dollars, while gaining college credit and employable skills."

[WTCS](#) shares that dual enrollment students tend to have higher academic achievement in high school and greater completion rates. These programs create more structured and supported pathways to community college enrollment and are critical to helping ensure students meet their degree and transfer goals.

“One of our goals at Luxemburg-Casco District is to provide students with as many opportunities to earn college credit to save them time and money towards their future. It’s important that our students have a clear direction before they leave high school, and partnerships like this help provide that pathway to their academic success,” said Mike Snowberry, Luxemburg-Casco School District middle school principal.

The Ahnapee Diesel Center program is available to junior and senior high school students within Luxemburg-Casco, Denmark, and Kewaunee school districts.