

Michigan ACTE Awards

2023 MI ACTE NEW TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Joshua Fabera

Information Technology & Cybersecurity Teacher Saginaw Career Complex

Joshua Fabera is in his second year of teaching and hit the ground running on day one. He began by reconstructing his program advisory committee, knowing that he needed the right industry professionals surrounding and supporting his program. He has capitalized on the experience within a wide range of IT occupations/industries of his committee, weaving them into the fabric of his instruction. It is not uncommon to see advisory members presenting mini lessons to students or coaching them for BPA within his classroom, on a regular basis. This type of industry/education partnership is what we strive for in all of our CTE programs; Josh achieved this in his first year of teaching.

Josh has worked with curriculum leaders and his updated advisory committee to revamp his curriculum, aligning instruction and certifications directly to business/industry needs. With over a decade of experience in the IT industry before moving into education, he actively lent his expertise to two career pathway consortiums, focused on identifying and aligning industry credentials to secondary state approved computer programming and cybersecurity programs.

During the 2022-23 school year, he joined two more career pathway consortiums to do the same work for computer networking and systems administration. To see this level of leadership so early in a teacher's career is inspirational.

His passion for his instructional content and his absolute advocacy for all students is evident every day. Students clamor to him to learn more, as he is so well respected for his knowledge and revered by students for his ability to connect with them. As a former BPA student, Josh knew how to seamlessly integrate his Career and Technical Student Organization into his classroom. As a result, in his first year of teaching at the Saginaw Career Complex, he took 13 students to the Business Professionals of America state competition where they competed among the best in the state. From there, two of his students went on to nationals in Dallas, Texas with one of his students placing 3rd in the nation. According to one parent, "Mr. Josh Fabera is a superb instructor and mentor. He helped my daughter find and explore career opportunities that she would not have had available at another high school."