

Media Advisory

Innovation Central High School Students to Learn Manufacturing Skills Through SME PRIME Schools Education Program

Nearly 85 Students have access to new manufacturing education opportunities for the 2022-23 school year through the SME Education Foundation

WHAT: Approximately 85 students at [Innovation Central High School](#) in Grand Rapids, Michigan, now have access to new manufacturing education opportunities through the [SME Education Foundation](#), the philanthropic arm of SME, a non-profit association committed to advancing manufacturing technology and developing a skilled workforce.

WHO: [SME PRIME® \(Partnership Response In Manufacturing Education\)](#) partners private industry with academia to build custom manufacturing and engineering programs in high schools across the country, providing equipment, curriculum, professional development for educators, scholarships for students, and funding for extra-curricular activities and program sustainability. SME PRIME is tailored to meet the needs of local manufacturers and is aligned with over 30 industry-recognized certifications. To date, SME PRIME is in 81 schools across 22 states, serving 8,000 students. As of 2022, 91% of PRIME seniors pursue manufacturing post high school—either through a manufacturing-related degree or by directly entering the workforce.



WHEN: Friday, March 24th from 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (including tour)

WHERE: Innovation Central High School, 421 Fountain St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

VIDEO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

- [Michigan Senator Mark Huizenga](#) speaking about the importance of manufacturing education & training in secondary schools.
- [SME Education Foundation Vice President Rob Luce](#) talking about the PRIME Schools program.
- [Michigan Manufacturing Association Executive Director of Workforce Solutions Bill Rayl](#).
- [Innovation Central Principal Dr. Jason McGhee](#), PRIME instructors Elisabeth Geim and Mike Larson discussing the importance of CTE education to the school and its students.
- Innovation Central High School student ambassadors leading a tour of labs/classrooms, demonstrating equipment; teachers discussing the projects/instruction.

PLEASE RSVP TO:

Michael Scholl
Senior PR Representative, SME
mscholl@sme.org
Tel. +1 313.425.3040