

## First IRC Manufacturing Boot Camp A Success!

The Chamber's Economic Development Office is proud to announce the success of the first Manufacturing Boot Camp in Indian River County.

The program introduced eight recently-graduated high school seniors to the manufacturing industry, providing them an opportunity to explore potential careers in



this industry sector or decide to pursue a college degree. During the week-long program, the students toured ten companies, asking questions of owners and facility managers about the skills needed, entry-level pay scales and job responsibilities. The results: Two students received job offers and at least three others

had follow-up interviews with local employers.

The students also completed the "FL Ready to Work" computer modules, which provide lessons in soft-skills training such as communication, teamwork and critical thinking. Additionally, they took part in a virtual welding session and an intro to the Certified Production Technician program. [Manpower](#) conducted sessions on interviewing, resume writing, and the importance of a firm but not bone-breaking handshake, and [National Bank of Commerce](#) offered tips on budgeting.

On Friday afternoon, a Speed Interviewing session was held for students to meet one-on-one with participating Boot Camp employers. Following the interviews, a special Completion Celebration was held to acknowledge the students' hard work and week-long commitment to the program. School Board Chair Laura Zorc handed out the Certificates of Completion and congratulated each student.

The program is a partnership with the [Indian River County School District](#) and [CareerSource Research Coast](#), plus many volunteers who helped with the planning and logistics. A special thank you to the local employers who hosted the group, many of whom provided lunch and take-away items for the students: [Triton Submarines](#),

[Dragonfly Boatworks](#), [Girard Equipment](#), [Float-On Boat Trailers](#), [M.A. Ford](#), [Nylacarb](#), [Aluma Tower](#), [United Juice](#), [CVS Distribution](#), and [Piper Aircraft](#). And, to [Wells Fargo Bank](#) for providing goody-bags for the students. Planning is already underway for next year's program.

For information contact:

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