



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OCTOBER 17, 2017

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

**BILL BARNES, CHS/CEMC PRINCIPAL
517-541-5601**

Charlotte Students Attend Manufacturing Day

Written By: Ashton Epkey, CHS Student

October 6, 2017, was National Manufacturing Day. The goal was to inform students of all the different opportunities in manufacturing. Several companies in Mid-Michigan joined together to send students from multiple schools to tour manufacturing companies, with a goal to get at least 1,000 students to attend. Charlotte High School visited two different manufacturing companies: Regional Steel Distribution Center, and Dart Container.



RSDC, a crucial supplier to our auto industry, is a manufacturing company that cuts shapes out of metal for automobiles. This tour was

very exciting because students learned about how parts of automobiles, such as fenders, hoods, and other body panels, are cut using a press and die.



Charlotte High School also toured Dart Container, a company in Mason specializing in styrofoam cup manufacturing. Dart explained the process of how cups were made and provided a tour of their warehouse and mechanic shop. Students were impressed by their organization and the technology that they have. Students got to see an Automated Guided Vehicle, which is a small vehicle that drives itself around to take boxes throughout the building. Students also learned about treating employees well, as Dart requires its workers to stretch before work to make sure the employees are safe. The company also offers an apprenticeship for the employees to go into mechanics or maintenance. Apprenticeships and internships are something that a lot of people forget that manufacturing companies do, and it was great for Charlotte students to hear about those types of opportunities in the manufacturing industry.

Manufacturing is one of the most needed jobs in Michigan with many of opportunities for great pay, advancement, college reimbursement and rewarding work. Companies like Dart and RSDC participate in Manufacturing Day tours to help bring awareness to the industry and help

students get excited about careers in manufacturing. Charlotte students learned a lot from their visits, and it certainly helped them to think about their own future plans.