

New Haven BIZ

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Making the grade in the trades



PHOTO | NEW HAVEN BIZ Career Pathways carpentry program graduates Thursday at Eli Whitney Technical High School in Hamden.

[By Michael C. Bingham](#)

A unique after-school technology program operated by the Career Pathways Technology Collaborative at Eli Whitney Technical High School held graduation exercises on Thursday at the Hamden school.

Some 30 students who studied plumbing, carpentry, manufacturing and the culinary arts earned graduation certificates at the conclusion of their studies. Ten of them were cited for special honors.

New Haven Mayor Toni N. Harp joined state and local leaders, educators, families and friends to mark the occasion.

“For these students to finish their regular school day, then travel to Eli Whitney, and embark upon a second round of classroom and hands-on training opportunities demonstrates their extraordinary commitment,” Harp said. Successfully completing the curriculum “maximizes [students’] opportunities for success once they enter the job market,” she added.

Career Pathways students attend the after-school program from traditional and alternative education high schools throughout New Haven. In addition to receiving high school credits toward graduation, they are trained in carpentry, plumbing, culinary arts and manufacturing. They receive credentialing in OSHA’s 10 health and safety standards, and ServSafe, which are safety and sanitation standards in the culinary arts.

The Career Pathways Technology Collaborative is a public/private partnership developed and operated by the non-profit Justice Education Center, and it is supported by the U.S. Department of Justice, City of New Haven and its YouthStat initiative, the General Assembly and the New Haven Board of Education.