

Crown Point High School's Dr. Ban presents at Education Summit

Story Discussion

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Crown Point High School's Dr. Eric Ban speaks at the One Region, One Vision Education Summit Wednesday.

CROWN POINT | Brock Jackson is amongst a list of students that will graduate with more than 30 college credit hours this year, thanks to Crown Point High School's higher education partnerships.

During Wednesday's One Region, One Vision Educational Summit entitled 'Educating Our Way to a Better Economy,' Crown Point Principal Dr. Eric Ban applauded the significance of college and career programming at his school.

"We have transformed the educational culture in Crown Point by building solid partnerships," said Dr. Eric Ban, CPHS principal. "We have students thinking about getting a jump on college credit earlier and earlier."

Many CPHS students have benefitted from these partnerships built between the school and Ivy Tech, Indiana University Northwest and Purdue University Calumet.

"These partnerships are essential," said Chip Pettit, CPHS administrator. "Higher education initiatives like these are vital to our students gaining an upperhand in attaining jobs."

U.S. official impressed with education efforts in NWI

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By Carmen McCollum carmen.mccollum@nwi.com, (219) 662-5337 | Posted: Thursday, February 24, 2011 12:00 am | (9) Comments

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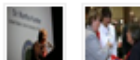
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Dr. Martha Kanter, United States under secretary of education, speaks Wednesday at the One Region, One Vision education summit at Hobart High School.



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One Region One Vision Education Summit

The One Region One Vision Education Summit was held at Hobart High

School. The keynote speaker was United States Under Secretary of Education Dr. Martha Kanter.

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Jobs will be available for those who are career and college ready

HOBART | The U.S. under secretary of education was impressed with the efforts the Northwest Indiana business and education communities have made to ready high school graduates for college and careers.

"I am glad to hear about what you're doing in Northwest Indiana, creating a community that works together," Martha Kanter said to a crowd of more than 300 educators and business professionals from across region.

Kanter was the featured speaker Wednesday at the One Region, One Vision summit titled "Educating Our Way to a Better Economy" at Hobart High School.

Kanter said she had conversation with a variety of educators during the day and was impressed with the dual credit opportunities developed between Crown Point High School and Indiana University Northwest in Gary; Purdue University Calumet in Hammond; and Ivy Tech Community College in Gary.

She commended IU Northwest and Ivy Tech on its Student African American Brotherhood, a national organization that empowers black men to excel in college, academically and socially and offer tutoring as needed. Kanter said there needs to be more organizations like that to assist minorities.

She also talked about the partnership with the Gary Community School Corp. and Indiana University to create dual credit programs for students, as well as Gary's all-boy and all-girl schools -- the Bernard C.

Watson Academy for Boys and the Frankie McCullough Academy for Girls.

But still so much more needs to be done in education, she said. Kanter said the federal government recognizes there is "too much testing" going on and that schools are not doing a good job of using the data. She said more time needs to be spent on teacher effectiveness and more than 1 million teachers would be hired across the country between now and 2018.

Many of the school districts that were present had an opportunity to present and promote the good things going on in education.

Many of the school districts that were present had an opportunity to present and promote the good things going on in education.

The School City of Hobart and Lake Ridge Schools highlighted their project-based learning initiatives, and the number of students who are benefiting by that.

Tri-Creek Superintendent Alice Neal highlighted the Small Learning Communities and Freshman Learning Academies at Lowell, Merrillville, Hammond and Hammond Morton high schools.

Joe Medellin, manager of Human Resources-ArcelorMittal, said he was surprised by everything going on at all of the schools.

Medellin also said from a high of 100,000 workers in the steel industry and about six companies along Lake Michigan, it's now down to a couple of companies with 6,000 workers.

"Demographics have changed tremendously," he said. "It used to be that all a person had to get a job in the steel mill was a strong back, and you didn't even have to have a diploma. We're searching for people with a different skill set."