



## Construction WBL Student Promotes CTE to Legislators



**Johnny Mathis**, a senior at **Brimfield High School**, attended the **Career and Technical Education Legislative Day** on March 23rd, in Springfield. Johnny presented a speech to legislators in the Capitol Rotunda, regarding the importance of CTE.

During his speech, he commented, “Working with **Ruyle Mechanical** has improved my work ethic, made me a knowledgeable worker, increased my communication skills, and broadened my knowledge of what they do. I had no idea what I wanted to do for my future until I started participating in the program. It is hard work, but I’m thankful I joined the program, as it has opened my eyes to career possibilities I never knew existed. It is a great opportunity for students to get educated about the skilled trade unions.”

In addition to presenting his speech, Johnny was able to meet all of our area legislators. He was accompanied by **Debra Johnnig**, **Brian Gordon**, and **Susan Sherwood** from the P.E.R.F.E.C.T. office. Thank you to Johnny for a job well done and best of luck with your future goals!



## Construction Industry Work-Based Learning “Learn Today, Build Tomorrow”

Students in the **Construction Industry Work-Based Learning program** are currently serving as unpaid interns with local union construction industry business partners. Each intern spends a portion of the school day job-shadowing industry mentors at a jobsite or business.

In addition to their internship responsibilities, the students also attended the Downstate Illinois Occupational Safety and Health Day on March 3, 2010 at the Peoria Civic Center where they attended safety seminars as well as a health fair and safety exhibits.

In March, the students also explored career opportunities at the Operating Engineers Local 649 training site near Mapleton, Illinois. Program participants received information about the Operators’ apprenticeship program and had the opportunity to try their skills on actual equipment, including excavators and cranes.

The second semester Construction Industry Work-Based Learning program interns and hosts are:

Tyler Barnett	Peoria High School	Mid-Illinois Companies
Rashard Booker	Dee-Mack High School	Otto Baum Construction
Cameron Bridges	Richwoods High School	Zobrist Construction
Nicholas Connolly	Princeville High School	Meister Electric, Inc.
Colton Godfrey	Princeville High School	CORE Construction
Patrick Huffcutt	Elmwood High School	Hein Construction
Corbin Luttrell	Dee-Mack High School	Kaiser Electric
Johnny Mathis	Brimfield High School	Ruyle Mechanical Services
Andrew Schroderus	Richwoods High School	Oberlander Electric
Semaj Treadwell	Woodruff High School	J.J. Braker & Sons
Jordan Wagner	Elmwood High School	River City Construction
Dayton Winborn	East Peoria High School	PIPICO Companies

Thank you to **TRICON**, **Operating Engineers Local 649**, and our local **union construction contractors** for arranging these wonderful experiences for the students!