

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Nov. 8, 2019

Students crowded around Brent Ebert as he lay on the floor of the Machining & Manufacturing classroom. Not knowing what to do, a student went next door and got Engineering instructor Mark Johnston.



In a real situation, not knowing what to do could be costly.

But in Monday's Medical Emergency Response Team drill, it helped team members know what they need to do to be better prepared in the event of an actual emergency.

Principal Josh Younge said teachers, Brent's students and the response team, led by nurse Mindy Frejkowski, were ready for the drill. So he thought he would give Mindy a challenge by having, unbeknownst to Mindy, another "emergency" in a Health Science classroom.

During a debrief Monday afternoon with the team, Josh asked if the fake seizure by a student with diabetes threw Mindy off at all.

Mindy was unfazed, treating the student first and then going to Brent's lab where students had placed a flannel jacket under his head.

Mindy proceeded to ask Brent, who was conscious, questions regarding his health while taking vitals. When Vince Perhach walked in, she asked him to write down all of the information she was getting from Brent.

As other members of the team arrived, each took initiative to assume responsibility for a job: ushering students out of the classroom; ensuring 9-1-1 had been called; and letting Kristy Landman know where to send the squad.

Josh said he thought the drill went very well and some important facts were learned, such as students in Brent's lab not knowing how to use the classroom phone (press 3 to make an inside call or 8 for outside). Brent said that taught him



Adrienne Davis, left, Health Science Technology instructor, and nurse Mindy Frejkowski tend to Machining & Manufacturing instructor Brent Ebert, who acted as the patient during the Medical Emergency Response Team's drill.

that having a list of extensions by the phone to call in case of an emergency would be helpful.

Matt Clifton, who led students into the lab after Brent "collapsed," said one improvement that needs to be made is better identification of the building's exterior doors.

He suggested creating a map of the building that shows the exterior door numbers and Kristy could then highlight the best route for the squad to take.

Other comments that came out of the drill during the debrief was a request by Law & Public Safety instructor Rex Cockrell for the North building to get an AED, the need to have enough staff members to cover classes when team members have to respond to a call and a discussion about how to reach the maintenance staff if one or more are off-campus.

Josh said that in an emergency, a staff member should call Mindy. If she is not available, call Tammy Sutherland, Michele Tisdale, Beth Tackett or Polly Compher.

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