

## OXYCHEM — Discover Manufacturing

Excitement and curiosity filled the air as students from the WSESD Career and Technical Education (CTE) program participated in an immersive experience made possible through a collaboration between WSESD, The Right Place and Michigan Works! West Central. This powerful partnership brought the Discover Manufacturing tours to life — giving students a unique, behind-the-scenes look at one of Michigan's leading manufacturers: OxyChem.

As the world's largest producer of calcium chloride, OxyChem plays a vital role in industries ranging from agriculture to construction. Students were welcomed into the facility by passionate professionals who shared insights about the company's operations and the wide range of career opportunities available within the organization. Throughout the tour, students were introduced to key technical roles, including Safety Officer, Chemical Engineer, Production Engineer, Production Manager, Maintenance Technician, Machinist, Electrician and Welder.

A standout moment was the visit to OxyChem's state-of-the-art control room. There, the Safety Officer detailed how advanced technology, collaboration and strict safety protocols work hand-in-hand to keep the plant



running smoothly. Students were impressed by the high-tech systems and the critical thinking required to manage them effectively.

Beyond the production floor, the tour also spotlighted essential roles in Environmental Engineering, Human Resources, Accounting, Nursing and Design.

OxyChem emphasized they don't just offer jobs, they build careers. With competitive salaries, strong benefits and a workplace culture that values work-life balance, the company left a lasting impression on the visiting students.

By the end of the tour, students had a much clearer understanding of the exciting and diverse pathways available in modern manufacturing. The experience ignited their interest and equipped them with valuable knowledge to make informed career decisions.

The Discover Manufacturing tour was more than a field trip—it was a launchpad for the future workforce.

Inspired and informed, these students left OxyChem ready to take the next steps toward promising careers in industries that shape the world.