HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS

instructor biography

Michael Holtzinger

Mr. Holtzinger was born in Bellefonte PA; he attended the Bald Eagle Area High School and the CPI Heavy Equipment Program that he now teaches. Mr. Holtzinger is always seeking new ideas and trends in the heavy equipment industry to pass along to his students. “The only way to do this is to go play in the dirt”.

After high school, he went to work as an equipment operator for 15 years before starting his own excavating business. After 8 years in business, he gave it up to become a teacher. Working as an operator and then as a business owner has allowed Mr. Holtzinger to bring his experiences to the classroom from both sides of employment. “When you have been a business owner you have a greater understanding of the saying “Time is Money”. In his line of work, too much time equals no money.

A Quote from Mr. Holtzinger

“After ten years of teaching, I am excited that each year brings exciting new challenges and opportunities for me and my students”

FUN FACTS ABOUT MR. HOLTZINGER

He is using the same home phone number that he had 50 years ago.

He lives in the house he grew-up in.

He would love to have lived in a cabin in the mountains 100 years ago.

He hiked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, spent two nights, and hiked out in the winter.
Available Certifications:

Students in the Heavy Equipment Operations Program can receive certifications from the:

**National Center for Construction Education and Research**

These (NCCER) certifications are recognized across the United States. There are numerous certifications with the key ones being:

- Safety
- Dump Trucks
- Loaders
- Graders
- Backhoes
- Excavators
- Bulldozers

**Student Cost: $75.00**
Outside Classroom Work:
The Heavy Equipment Program has four textbooks that are covered in three years. 90% of the work is done as homework. Online research of equipment costs and hours are done outside of school.

Things you’ll need:

• Good attendance
• Ability to work with your hands
• Ability to read, follow and carry out directions
• Good communication skills
• Cold weather clothing
• Willingness to do manual labor
• Not be afraid to get dirty
• Passion for heavy equipment
• Work away from home for long periods in the industry
• Desire to want to make lots of money after high school