

City Success Story #59

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“TRAVEL YOUR OWN PATH.”

ALLEN MURRAY

... FUTURE ASTROPHYSICIST
... STEM EDUCATION ADVOCATE
... MICHIGAN CITY SUCCESS STORY

This 2015 Michigan City High School graduate shares his passion for math and physics with students across the region.

MATH MIND: In high school, Allen Murray excelled in many subjects – but he especially enjoyed the “fun and cool aspects” of his AP Calculus class. He credits teachers like Jim Jepsen and others at MCHS with his decision to double-major in math and physics in college. “The great teachers I had in high school motivated me to stay interested, to keep learning and pushing myself.”

SOUNDS COMPLICATED: After Allen graduates from Purdue Northwest in 2020, he plans to pursue graduate studies in computational astrophysics – “a fancy term for using computer simulations to explore space.” One day, he hopes to teach at the college level or conduct research in a national lab.

ON THE ROAD: Allen is involved with PNW’s “STEM on the Road” program, which travels to schools throughout Northwest Indiana exposing kids to science, technology, engineering, and math. Recently, he visited MCHS to show students a Van der Graaf generator, which made their hair stand on end. “Society is so technology-driven. We show some cool applications of STEM because it might help kids realize they have a drive and passion to pursue a STEM career.”

SECRET TO SUCCESS: “One of my MCHS teachers, Tsugawa Sensei, taught me a Japanese saying: ‘In front of you, there is no road, but behind you there can be a road.’ I truly believe you make your own path, and only you can travel that path.”



Did you know?

MCAS has won several awards for its broad range of STEM courses and extra-curricular opportunities, elementary through high school!

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