



**T<sup>4</sup> Tools Trades Torque Tech**

## NORTHLAND COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

*Hosted by Grand Forks Public Schools*



**GRADES 7-8 ~ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025**

**GRADES 7-8 ~ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2025**



T4 introduces students to workforce skills, needs, training and networking opportunities with industry leaders and technicians!

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### Organizing Sponsors:



NORTH DAKOTA  
**PETROLEUM  
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**Lignite**  
 Energy Council

# SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY ~ NOVEMBER 6-7, 2025

*(Schedule will be the same for both days, all times CST)*

## Northland Community and Technical College Commons Area

8:45 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.	<b>Pre-Opening/General Session Arrival</b> Location: Commons Area
9:10 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	<b>Opening/General Session</b> <b>Welcoming Remarks:</b> <b>Megan Folkert</b> , Middle School Career Advisor Grand Forks Public Schools  <b>John Fields</b> - Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs Northland Community and Technical College  <b>Opening General Session Presentation:</b> <b>“The Pyramid of Career Development”</b> <b>Eric Ripley</b> , Executive Director of Career and Technical Education Grand Forks Public Schools and Grand Forks Area Career and Technology Center  <b>What is T4? Why am I Here?</b> <b>Shawn Brink</b> – State Energy Education Coordinator  <b>Let’s Begin Our Day!</b> <b>Megan Folkert</b> , Middle School Career Advisor Grand Forks Public Schools
9:45 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.	<b>All Students Attend Session 1 (Follow your advisor!)</b>
10:35 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<b>All Students Attend Session 2 (Follow your advisor!)</b>
11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b>LUNCH – GROUP 1</b> All Other Students Attend Session 3 (Follow your advisor!)
12:05 p.m. – 12:40 p.m.	<b>LUNCH – GROUP 2</b> All Other Students Attend Session 3 (Follow your advisor!)
12:45 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.	<b>All Students Attend Session 4 (Follow your advisor!)</b>
1:35 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	<b>All Students Attend Session 5 (Follow your advisor!)</b>
2:15 p.m.	<b>Depart – Thanks for attending! Safe Travels!</b>

### General Session Presentation: “The Pyramid of Career Development”

**Eric Ripley** serves as the **Executive Director of Career and Technical Education** for **Grand Forks Public Schools**. With over 25 years of experience in CTE, he has been a driving force behind expanding hands-on learning opportunities for students across the region. Most recently, Eric helped lead the creation of the **Career Impact Academy**, a new facility that connects students with real-world career pathways and nearly 100 local industry partners. In recognition of his leadership and dedication to CTE, he was named **North Dakota ACTE Administrator of the Year**. Eric is passionate about helping young people discover their interests and prepare for success in college, careers, and life.



## NORTHLAND COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**SESSION A: ROOM 149**  
**Pipeline Operations**  
 T4 Team  
 Facilitator(s): Tim Kolsrud, Pipeline Operations  
[t4ndsummit.org](http://t4ndsummit.org)

**SESSION B: ROOM 150**  
**Let's Dig up Millions of Tons of Soil!**  
 T4 Team  
 Facilitator(s): Kent Ellis  
[t4ndsummit.org](http://t4ndsummit.org)

**SESSION C: ROOM 232 (THURSDAY)**  
**CSI: Junior Investigators Workshop**  
 University of North Dakota  
 Facilitator(s): Julia Matthews, Forensic Science Graduate Student.  
 Lavinia Iancu, Associate Professor, Program Director & Graduate Director, Forensic Science  
[lavinia.iancu@und.edu](mailto:lavinia.iancu@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION C: ROOM 232 (FRIDAY)**  
**Discover What Nurses Do**  
 University of North Dakota College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines  
 Facilitator(s): Zauna Synnott, Office of Student Services Manager; Mary Adkins, Morgan Soine, Addison Bachmeier  
[zauna.synnott@und.edu](mailto:zauna.synnott@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION D: ROOM 234**  
**Heavy Equipment Operators**  
 Local 49  
 Facilitator(s): Cole J Uecker, Business Representative  
[cuecker@local49.org](mailto:cuecker@local49.org)  
[local49.org](http://local49.org)

**SESSION E: ROOM 238**  
**Tools for Keeping Young Workers Safe**  
 Workforce Safety & Insurance  
 Facilitator(s): Ashley Mund, Robyn Yliniemi, Verne Wolf  
[ammund@nd.gov](mailto:ammund@nd.gov)  
[workforcesafety.com](http://workforcesafety.com)

**SESSION F: ROOM 220**  
**Power Plant Puzzle**  
 North Dakota Petroleum Foundation  
 Facilitator(s): T4 Team  
[Shawn\\_brink@bismarckschools.org](http://Shawn_brink@bismarckschools.org)  
[ndpetroleumfoundation.org](http://ndpetroleumfoundation.org)

**SESSION G: ROOM 710**  
**World of Flight**  
 North Dakota Petroleum Foundation  
 Facilitator(s): T4 Team  
[Shawn\\_brink@bismarckschools.org](http://Shawn_brink@bismarckschools.org)  
[ndpetroleumfoundation.org](http://ndpetroleumfoundation.org)

**SESSION H: ROOM 322**  
**Inside the OR: Suit Up & Save Lives**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Ruth LeTexier, Surgical Technology  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION I: ROOM 316**  
**Diesel Schematic Activity**  
 Butler Machinery  
 Facilitator(s): Riley Flom,  
 Workforce Development Specialist  
[rileyflom@buttermachinery.com](mailto:rileyflom@buttermachinery.com)  
<https://www.buttermachinery.com/careers/>

**SESSION J: ROOM 312**  
**Tech Tinker Lab**  
 UND School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
 Facilitator(s): Tom Stokke, Tarek Elderini, Mohammad Rasouli, John Nordlie  
[thomas.stokke@und.edu](mailto:thomas.stokke@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION K: ROOM 336**  
**Get "Exposed" To X-Ray**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Debra Beland,  
 Radiologic Technology  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION L: ROOM 354 (THURSDAY)**  
**Try Welding with Simulators**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Joel Ziegler, Welding Process Technology  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION L: ROOM 354 (FRIDAY)**  
**Water Treatment Challenge**  
 University of North Dakota  
 Facilitator(s):  
 Mahmut Selim Ersan, Assistant Professor  
 Faisal Ahmed, PhD student  
 Mohamed Ali, PhD student  
 Mahmut Selim Ersan, Assistant Professor  
[mahmut.ersan@und.edu](mailto:mahmut.ersan@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION M: ROOM 368**  
**Day in the Life of a Respiratory Therapist**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Heather Koland, Respiratory Therapy  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION N: ROOM 352 (THURSDAY)**  
**Early Childhood**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s):  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION N: ROOM 314 (FRIDAY)**  
**Move Like a PTA**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Justin Berry, Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA)  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION O: ROOM 356**  
**Introduction to Petroleum Engineering**  
 University of North Dakota  
 Energy and Petroleum Engineering Department  
 Facilitator(s): Aluah Rockson, Oni Opeyemi  
[chad.frost@und.edu](mailto:chad.frost@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION P: ROOM 362**  
**Exploring Geology and Chemistry**  
 UND Energy and Environmental Research Center  
 Facilitator(s): Ene Ajonye, Research Assistant Janet Crossland, Research Scientist Ryan Klapperich, Senior Geoscientist  
[eajonye@undeerc.org](mailto:eajonye@undeerc.org)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION Q: ROOM 366**  
**Engineering Polymers from Slime to Boba**  
 University of North Dakota  
 Facilitator(s): Frank Bowman, Dr. Beth Klemetsrud  
[chad.frost@und.edu](mailto:chad.frost@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION R: ROOM 308**  
**Explore OT: Move, Feel, Create**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Erica Young, Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION S: ROOM 299D**  
**Surveyors of the Future – What Do We Do?**  
 Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, LLC (AE2S)  
 Facilitator(s): Betsy Seaver, Brent Fuller  
[Betsy.Seaver@AE2S.com](mailto:Betsy.Seaver@AE2S.com)  
<https://www.ae2s.com/>

**SESSION T: ROOM 299D**  
**World of Machining**  
 North Dakota Petroleum Foundation  
 Facilitator(s): T4 Team  
[Shawn\\_brink@bismarckschools.org](mailto:Shawn_brink@bismarckschools.org)  
[ndpetroleumfoundation.org](http://ndpetroleumfoundation.org)

**SESSION U: ROOM 502A**  
**Exploring HVAC**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Karl Krogfoss, HVAC  
[karl.krogfoss@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:karl.krogfoss@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION V: ROOM 502B**  
**PVC Project Build**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Jack Hanson, Plumbing  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION W: ROOM 502C**  
**Wire it Up!**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Rick Simon, Electrical Technology  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION X: ROOM 515**  
**Marshmallow Tower Challenge**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Erin Bulger, Architectural Technology and Design  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION Y: ROOM 510**  
**Building for Tomorrow – Careers in Commercial Construction**  
 Construction Engineers, Inc.  
 Facilitator(s): Shari Elgin, Human Resources Mgr.  
[sharie@constructionengineers.com](mailto:sharie@constructionengineers.com)  
<https://constructionengineers.com>

**SESSION Z: ROOM 530**  
**Weld the Future**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Chase Fennell, Welding Technology  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION AA: ROOM 552**  
**Engineering Survey**  
 University of North Dakota, Department of Civil Engineering  
 Facilitator(s): Howe Lim, Bruce Dockter  
[yeo.lim@und.edu](mailto:yeo.lim@und.edu)  
<https://und.edu/>

**SESSION BB: ROOM 556**  
**Autonomous Farming**  
 True North Equipment  
 Facilitator(s): Kevin Phelps, Whitney Landman, and Staff  
[hr@truenorthequipment.com](http://hr@truenorthequipment.com)  
[truenorthequipment.com](http://truenorthequipment.com)

**SESSION CC: ROOM 730**  
**Fire Rescue Experience**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Benjamin Rogers, Fire Technology  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION DD: ROOM 705**  
**Wizard Electronics**  
 North Dakota Petroleum Foundation  
 Facilitator(s): Joel Gustafson  
[ndpetroleumfoundation.org](http://ndpetroleumfoundation.org)

**SESSION EE: ROOM 701**  
**Build a Bird Feeder**  
 Northland Community & Technical College  
 Facilitator(s): Shawn Moser, Carpentry  
[maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:maura.nelson@northlandcollege.edu)  
[northlandcollege.edu/](http://northlandcollege.edu/)

**SESSION FF: ROOM 715 (THURSDAY)**  
**Explore the World of Nursing**  
 Altru Health System  
 Facilitator(s): Bethany Larson, Clinical Education Consultant  
[bjlarson@altru.org](mailto:bjlarson@altru.org)  
<https://www.altru.org/>



NEED HELP OR HAVE AN EMERGENCY?

Contact your advisor, teacher, or chaperone!



## T4 SESSION LEGEND

Session	Room Number	Session	Room Number
A	149	Q	366
B	150	R	308
C	232	S	299D
D	234	T	299D
E	238	U	502A
F	220	V	502B
G	710	W	502C
H	322	X	515
I	316	Y	510
J	312	Z	530
K	336	AA	552
L	354	BB	556
M	368	CC	730
N	352 (Thursday) 314 (Friday)	DD	705
O	356	EE	701
P	362	FF	715

## T4 - EAST GRAND FORKS 2025 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

As of 10/30/25

Thursday, November 6, 2025

East Grand Forks MN- Central Middle School

Grand Forks- South Middle School

Dakota Prairie School

Minto Public School

Hillsboro Public School

Fosston, MN Middle School

Friday, November 7, 2025

Grand Forks - Schroeder Middle School

Grand Forks - Valley Middle School

Grand Forks - Twining Middle School

Pembina- North Border

Buxton - Central Valley School

Climax, MN – Climax-Shelly School

Thompson Public School

Manvel Public School

Larimore Public School

**THANK YOU!!**

*Thank you for helping T4 introduce your students to workforce skills, needs, training and networking opportunities with industry leaders and technicians!*

## THANK YOU T4 GUESTS!

- Participating Schools Administration, Students, Advisors, Chaperones, Parents, Families and Friends of our Students
- Bus Drivers
- Community Leaders
- Volunteers
- General Session Speakers
- Session Sponsors and Facilitators
- Collaborating Partners
- T4 Sponsors and Organizing Sponsors

## ENJOY YOUR DAY!

### LUNCH:

Please stay with your advisor during lunch and clean up after yourself!

### QUIET PLEASE!

Do not visit in the common area while students are in session!

### CELL PHONES:

Students and Advisors!! Cell phones must be turned OFF during your T4 day. (This also means NO TEXTING please ~ please be respectful!)

### NEED HELP OR HAVE AN EMERGENCY?

Contact your advisor, teacher, or chaperone!

## THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTS!

### Quality Education with Real Results.

As you're embarking on some of the most defining years in your life, you must be asking yourself many questions. What are you looking for in a college? Are you hoping to just learn or make an impact? Would you like to leave with a degree or a career?

Whether you're looking for a stepping stone to a four-year degree, hands-on training to jump-start your career, or something in between - you'll find it at Northland.

### Your Future Begins Here.

Northland is a comprehensive two-year community and technical college located in northwestern Minnesota. At Northland, we provide education that transforms lives and strengthens the communities we serve.

At Northland, we have everything you need to turn your passion into something bigger. We offer more than 80 academic program options to suit all interests. And if you're unsure about what you'd like to major in, we'll work with you to discover your passion and unleash your potential.



**NORTHLAND**  
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE



**Contact:**

**John Fields, M.A., J.D.**  
Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs  
Office: (218) 793-2539  
[John.fields@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:John.fields@northlandcollege.edu)  
<http://www.northlandcollege.edu>



The Grand Forks Public Schools Career and Technical Education (CTE) program is dedicated to preparing students to be "Choice Ready" with academic, technical, and employability skills in areas aligned with regional workforce needs through hands-on, engaging, and relevant curriculum. Career development, including activities like today's T4 event, play a crucial role in helping students explore and shape their future career pathways. By engaging in career exploration, students are able to gain valuable insights into their interests, strengths, and opportunities, empowering them to make informed decisions moving forward.



The Career Impact Academy is a regional CTE Center that expands the availability of high-quality CTE programs to students in Grand Forks and surrounding communities. The Career Impact Academy provides students with access to cutting-edge technology, industry-relevant training, and work-based learning experiences designed to meet the evolving workforce needs of our region. By investing in CTE, we are shaping the future of education and workforce development, ensuring a bright future for Grand Forks and beyond.

**Contact:**

**Eric Ripley, Executive Director**  
Career & Technical Education  
Grand Forks Public Schools  
Grand Forks Area Career & Technology Center  
[eripley270@mygfschools.org](mailto:eripley270@mygfschools.org)

### Organizing Sponsors:



## WHAT IS T4?

T4 introduces students to workforce skills, needs, training and networking opportunities with industry leaders and technicians! How do we expect young people to dream if they don't know what they can dream about? T4 Tools Trades Torque Tech is the premier way for tomorrow's workforce to get an up-close look at the inner workings of industry.

## THANK YOU TO OUR ORGANIZING SPONSORS!



[www.NDPetroleumFoundation.org](http://www.NDPetroleumFoundation.org)



The North Dakota Petroleum Foundation's mission is to provide and support education and outreach opportunities related to the petroleum industry, develop and advance quality of life initiatives, and promote and enhance the conservation heritage of North Dakota, and advocate for the industry and its communities to ensure their voice is heard and respected.

The Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, was founded by the North Dakota Petroleum Council in 2018 to support our state and the communities in which we operate. Through outreach programs, scholarships and education opportunities, and environmental stewardship programs, we strive to help our neighbors make our communities better places to live, work, and raise a family.

The oil and natural gas industry is an economic powerhouse for the state, contributing more than \$42.58 billion to North Dakota's economy and supporting nearly 50,000 jobs. The industry also paid more than \$3.9 billion in taxes, royalties, permits and other fees. These revenues are directed toward funds used to fund specific priorities including schools, roads and infrastructure, the North Dakota Legacy Fund, property tax relief, wildlife and natural resources, and more.



[www.Lignite.com](http://www.Lignite.com)

The Lignite Energy Council is a regional trade association representing the lignite coal and energy producers and businesses that support the industry in the Upper Midwest that provide electricity, synthetic natural gas, fertilizers, and other goods and services.

The industry accounts for \$5.75 billion in gross economic impact for the state, \$1.04 million in local and state tax contributions, and more than 12,000 direct and indirect jobs.

Approximately 2 million customers in the region are served by the lignite industry's affordable and reliable power from North Dakota's six lignite-fired power plants.

North Dakota gets it right when it comes to protecting and maintaining air quality, after all, we are one of only four of the lower 48 states that have never violated federal standards that protect human health and the environment, thanks in part to the \$2 billion industry has invested in environmental stewardship technologies.

Also, more than 22,000 acres of mined land have been reclaimed and bond released in North Dakota, producing as good or better than prior to mining.



# SPONSORS & PARTNERS

## SPONSORS:



## COLLABORATING PARTNERS:



## SESSION PARTNERS:

