

My Path

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As a student I have always been an overachiever but, I never realized until I got to high school just how much of an overachiever I actually am. Every project I have ever done has always had so much effort and time put into it. Projects that were meant to take ten minutes could last me anywhere between one hour and three hours.

A lot of the time this was not really well received at Champlain Valley Union Highschool (CVU) because my projects didn't meet the "requirements." This along with the fact that I don't like staying in one place for a long period of time led me to choose to attend the Center for Technology, Essex (CTE).

In my first year as a student at CTE I decided to attend Pretech 2 because I have always been computer oriented and found the creative side of it very intriguing. In terms of classes I must say it was most definitely one of the most fun classes I have attended.

When that school year came to an end I enrolled in a program for the next year called CAWD (Computer Animation and Web Design.) because I have always been fascinated with how web pages were made and the component needed. Overall, I found this class enjoyable except for the fact that my

teacher was not extremely helpful. My teacher wasn't very helpful because all of the programs we used in class were recently updated and he had not tested out his own assignments he had given us. This caused me some minor irritation and caused me to struggle.

In that class I had planned on being admitted to the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) but, because of a vacation that ran through some of my school days, they considered the days I missed as skipping and I was not allowed into NTHS.

Once the year had come to a close I had a difficult choice; should I attend CAWD2 or swap to Engineering? At the end of my deliberation on this topic I decided to attend CAWD2. I chose to attend CAWD2 because I would have the possibility to test out of web design and get a web designer certificate.

Throughout my life there have always been people I can claim to be influential. The two most influential people in my life are my mother and father. My mother always took care of everyone and everything she could. She is driven and passionate. My father had always been the main breadwinner in my family but was rarely around as a result. Throughout my youth I was constantly moving as a result of my dad's job and as a result I can't claim one specific teacher was specifically influential in my life.

Throughout my time at CTE I have overcome many challenges. One such challenge was when I was in PreTech2, one of the projects we did was creating a toy with preexisting broken toys. For this we had to solder wires together which was extremely difficult for me seeing as I have a tremor and

I have a lot of trouble holding things still. Another challenge is my own expectations for my work which meant I took as much time as I could on projects until they looked acceptable, be it an hour or 24 hours.

Currently I am in CAWD2 and am a member of the National Technical Honor Society. I have found the experience to be both enjoyable and helpful. We have talked about many subjects of interest to me and also we have done some really interesting projects.

My only issue I have with my class this year is that the students treat the class as secondary and as such goof off all of the time. This is not the fault of the teacher and as such I would never blame them for this. As a student I am kind, resourceful, and extremely persistent. I treat everyone as well as I can and am willing to spend days working on a single project if it means it will turn out good.

In terms of a college education I plan on starting off at The Community College of Vermont (CCV) In order to take the base level classes that I need in order to lessen the costs before I transfer to a different college. The two colleges I am considering transferring to will either be Champlain College (CC) or Vermont Technical College (VTC). I plan on starting at CCV because I believe it will be a major help with tuition. If at all possible I do not want to go into twenty to thirty years worth of debt.

I plan on getting some form of engineering degree (likely computer engineering) as a bachelor's course with a minor in either business or psychology. I think this is achievable if I put everything into it. I am not

positive I will go down this route which is why Community College is a good idea. It will allow me extra time to mull over the possibilities. If you have any suggestions or questions I am all ears.