



October 3, 2016

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---- **PRESS RELEASE** ----

**Advancing Macomb to Sponsor Macomb Manufacturing Day October 7**

Advancing Macomb is one of this year's Manufacturing Day sponsors in Macomb County. After researching and creating a county asset inventory, the Advancing Macomb Board of Directors conducted several interviews earlier this year to determine top priorities for the county. Each of the identified priorities creates a positive impact on Macomb's economy, community or natural resources. Manufacturing and manufacturing technology emerged as the driving factor for Macomb's economic success – within the Detroit Region and globally.

Despite its importance and global dominance, manufacturing in Macomb has taken a backseat to other vocations and higher education pursuits in liberal arts programs over the last few decades. This has left a gap in the current workforce.

“While we are known for parts and assembly for Ford, General Motors, and FCA, Macomb manufacturers are also making and designing medical devices, space exploration equipment, alternative energy products and components for new vehicle manufacturing companies like Tesla,” said Mashell Carissimi Principal of JMC Electrical and Chair of Advancing Macomb's Strategic Planning Committee. She continues, “Kids in Macomb need to know about the opportunities they have right at their doorsteps. There is no other place in the world that offers this much access to the companies that are designing and producing our future.”

Designed to inspire the next generation of our workforce, students throughout Macomb County will participate in Manufacturing Day (MFG Day) by visiting area plants to learn about the industry and the careers they have to offer. An estimated 2,100 students and 57 manufacturers will come together with tours and insight regarding opportunities here in the county. MFG Day is a national campaign designed to provide the public with a better understanding of the manufacturing industry.

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"We have been a supporter of Manufacturing Day since the county started the program in 2013. Opening our doors to students helps them see design and engineering first-hand and how they can be a part of building products for the future," said Mark Rusch, CFO of The Proper Group International and Advancing Macomb Board member.

Coordinated by the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development and the Macomb Intermediate School District, students will board buses to visit nearby manufacturing sites. With the help of high school principals, guidance counselors and teachers, students from every school have an opportunity to discover face to face the potential career possibilities. They will see manufacturing in action and meet with the people who make things for a living. As a follow-up, Macomb County South Campus will host a career expo at Macomb Community College's Sports & Expo Center on October 20.

"Global manufacturing and production technology originates and innovates in Macomb County. We applaud Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and the Macomb Intermediate School District for starting and growing this important initiative," said Advancing Macomb Executive Director Melissa Roy.



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**Advancing Macomb** Advancing Macomb is a business and community leadership group representing 20 leading employers, three principal business organizations and the largest higher educational institution in Macomb County, an area encompassing approximately 900,000 residents and 18,000 businesses. Our organization is committed to enhancing local communities by leveraging a unified civic leadership voice throughout the Detroit region. [www.advancingmacomb.com](http://www.advancingmacomb.com)

