



Framing a Future - Specialist High Skill Major (Construction)

Last year, I decided to make the commitment to complete a semester on the House Building Project. The project is offered through White Pines for all Algoma DSB high school students together with the development partner SaDan.

Participating in the House Building program allowed me to work towards graduating as a Specialist High Skills Major student in the Construction sector. I think that this program gave me my best opportunity to secure an apprenticeship in the construction field. I learned and experienced the many trades involved in home construction and this included gaining more skills that have helped me with "do-it-yourself" carpentry projects on my own time.

I enjoyed reading blueprints and lay outs and framing is definitely my favourite aspect of residential construction. Using calculations for cutting material is also important on this project.

It's a very different way to learn, working with a team of students to maintain and be responsible for tools, trailers and a complete construction site.

I had a chance to observe and work with the tradespeople that SalDan employs.

The various certifications I earned will help me as I apply for jobs in the construction sector. This is a great advantage for anyone who is a SHSM student!

I have used this successful cooperative education experience to get signed through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship program. So now I have some exciting options for post-secondary training and employment.

I plan to graduate from Bawating this June and be moving to the next step in my life as an apprentice. I will consider construction apprenticeship training programs at a few different colleges including locally and Kitchener. It would be great to be in the Soo and begin a career as a skilled tradesperson in the construction field!

- Andrew Rooley

New location:
Bawating Late School
550 Northern Ave. (across from Sault College)
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
Ph: 945-7194

[Check out our other featured OYAP students - Click Here](#)

Interested in getting your career started before leaving high school? Contact your Student Services department for more information about the OYAP program.

[Click Here for the Algoma District School Board Website!](#)

[Click Here for the Provincial OYAP Website!](#)

You may also contact Tony Schoahs (Pathways and Experiential Learning Teacher) at:
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