**John M. Dennis Scholarship Fund**

1. **Presentation:**

The John M. Dennis scholarship fund was established to award $500.00 to a deserving WEMOCO student annually. The award is intended to be used towards college or for preparing for a career. Students who apply and are recommended for this award should demonstrate a strong work ethic/desire to work hard to achieve his/her academic/career goals.

Mr. Dennis was part of the Monroe 2 Orleans BOCES organization in various roles for 21 years. He began his career working in machine/electronics repair, before coming to BOCES in 1988 as the Robotics Adult Education Instructor. In 1992, he began teaching Electronics & Robotics at the WEMOCO Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center and in 1998 became the School-to-Work Coordinator until his retirement in 2009. Mr. Dennis was a WEMOCO representative for the Monroe 2 Orleans Teacher Association and was heavily involved in SkillsUSA throughout his career at BOCES 2. He was the WEMOCO SkillsUSA chapter lead advisor, a NYS Officer Advisor, and was the Webmaster for NYS Skills USA website. Even after his retirement, he continued to be involved in Skills USA and WEMOCO by serving as webmaster, judging leadership competitions and as a member of our Automotive Technology advisory committee. After retirement, he also worked for a former WEMOCO teacher as an office manager.

Throughout his life, Mr. Dennis felt strongly about the opportunities and leadership qualities that CTE and SkillsUSA provide for students; he believed in life-long learning and in Career and Technical Education. During his career at BOCES 2, he took adult education courses to learn HTML programming and web design. He had a strong interest in computers, technology and math. Mr. Dennis had passion for cars and racing; he loved life and was young at heart. He was a mentor, friend and teacher to many staff members at WEMOCO throughout his years. He had a strong influence on young people starting their careers.

1. **Selection Committee:**

Your application materials will be forwarded to the Dennis family for review and selection of the award recipient.

1. **Selection Criteria:**

An annual recipient of the John M. Dennis Scholarship will:

 Be a graduating student who works outside of school and plans to go on for further education/training and/or begin his/her career.

 Be involved in student organizations and/or extracurricular activities (preferred but not limited to SkillsUSA members).

 Possess the qualities of a good work ethic and character; have an array of interests, desire to learn and stay current in his/her field of study.

 Provide proof of employment and/or college acceptance after graduation to receive award.

1. **Selection Timeline:**

Please **email** your student statements and at least one letter of recommendation to lradford@monroe2boces.org by May 3, 2021. Your application materials will be forwarded to the Dennis family for review and selection of the award recipient by the end of May. A letter of recognition will be sent to the selected student prior to the WEMOCO Awards Ceremony from the Executive Principal’s Office.

1. **Fund management:**

This fund was established, following his death in March 2013, by Craig Armitage, former WEMOCO teacher and owner of C.M. Armitage Electrical Contracting Inc., and friends at WEMOCO to honor the virtues of our teacher, friend and former colleague, John (Jack) M Dennis. The fund is managed by a Board of Directors.

1. **Application:**

Deadline: May 3, 2021

Part A: Recommendation

Please have a teacher or employer send at least one recommendation to accompany this application to lradford@monroe2boces.org by deadline date.

Part B: Student statement

Please respond to the prompt below in no more than one page. This must be sent electronically to lradford@monroe2boces.org by deadline date.

**What does having a strong work ethic mean to you? How will this influence your plans following graduation for college and/or career?**