

**Garrett
County
businesses
support
work-based
learning**

**Students with
disabilities
can explore
career interests**

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OAKLAND — The month of October is recognized as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Over the last several years, local businesses have played a vital role in allowing Garrett County Public Schools students with disabilities to engage in work-based learning experiences.

The GCPS Department of Special Education's Secondary Transition Team recognizes business partnerships as a way for students with disabilities to be given a unique opportunity to explore their career interests and practice the necessary skills for successful employment.

Since the initiation of the work-based learning program in 2017, 38 students with disabilities have been provided with employment experiences with the following businesses: Appalachian Crossroads, Auto Land, The Cornish Cafe, FireFly Farms Market, Fratz True Value Hardware, Garrett Container System Inc., Garrett County Community Action, Greater Oakland Business Association, Gregg's Pharmacy, HART for Animals Inc., Garrett County Chamber of Commerce, Naylor's Hardware, Patriot Automotive Group Inc., Pick of the Litter, Shear Fantasy, Simon Pearce and Third Street Diner.