

Combining his Passion for Technology & the Planet

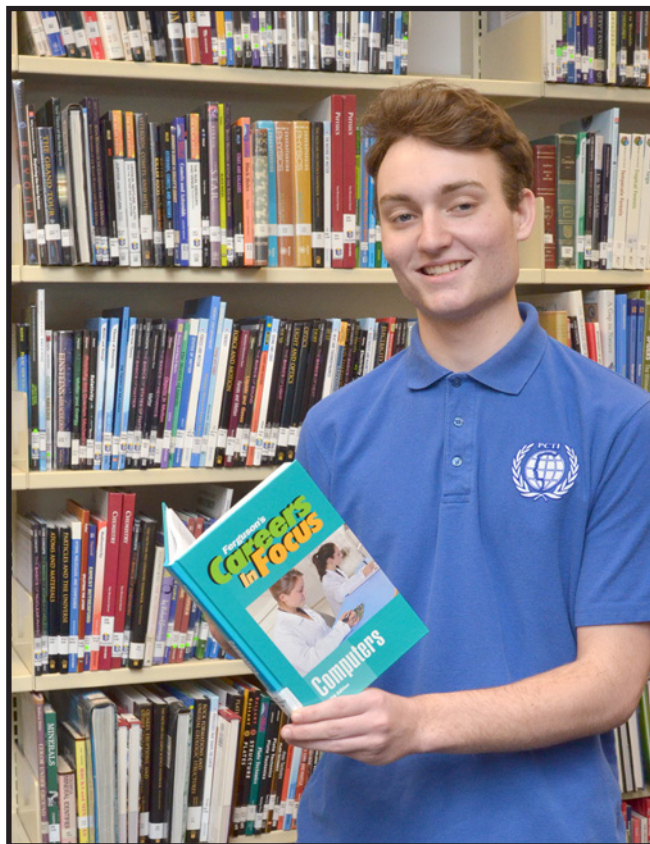
Patrick Kiel

Patrick Kiel is a driven individual from North Haledon who lives for opportunity and adventure. This member of the Academy of Information Technology/Computer Science program aspires to do great things with his life. As PCTI's *Salutatorian* for the Class of 2016, he's off to a fantastic start!

His view on Computer Science is thus, "Technology is a great skill to have. I enjoy solving problems, web design, programming, and writing code so this was a good choice for me."

That's not the only place Patrick's interests lie. He's actually quite fond of science and mathematics. Inspired by one of his favorite books, *Plastiki*, Patrick has decided to focus on how humans impact the ocean environment. One of his most poignant experiences to date has been scuba diving for the first time. Patrick has since earned certifications in this particular skill.

Within the halls of PCTI, he has been involved in Volleyball and has served as Captain, FBLA, SkillsUSA, and was selected for National Honor Society, of which he is acting Vice President! Patrick's academic aptitude has earned him the number two spot in all of the Class of 2016 with an outstanding GPA of 4.44. He will graduate with a potential fourteen credits - if not more - towards his college career.



In what little free time that remains, Patrick volunteers as a lifeguard and swim instructor. He has been a Boys Scout member for years and will soon earn the coveted title of Eagle Scout.

Patrick will capitalize on his love of research by attending the University of Miami to further his ecologic understanding of coral reefs and the oceans. When asked why he chose this particular area of study, Patrick said, "I've been an advocate for oceans ever since I was young,

when I learned about overfishing and how human waste effects the balance of the environment." His ultimate goal is to pursue undergraduate degrees in Marine Science and Biology and to later work towards earning a PhD.

"During my time at PCTI, I've really enjoyed getting involved in sports, academics, and extra-curricular activities. There's value in doing everything - it's contributed to who I am as a person. I've learned to chase my goals - instead of waiting - that lesson has been invaluable."

Congratulations to this dedicated young man who is destined for greatness. Keep pursuing your passions and follow your heart!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranked in the top 1% of his class
- Earned a potential 14 college credits
- Lifeguard and Scuba Diving certifications, soon to be Eagle Scout
- Selected for Boys State, previous Circle of Success member
- Involved in Volleyball (Captain), FBLA, SkillsUSA, selected for National Honor Society (acting Vice President)
- Competed and placed in SkillsUSA & FBLA competitions
- Goal: Graduate from the University of Miami with degrees in Marine Science & Biology, earn a PhD