Wilsonville's World of Speed is nearing its first-year anniversary.

After taking shots of them a year ago, it seemed like a good time to see how the ambitious goals of the founders, David and Sally Bany were coming along. Their vision was to create a world-class museum that would showcase the world of motor sports, with a major focus on education programs.

As it turns out, they've come a long way in a very short time, especially with their education program.

Stepping back for a moment here: Of Oregon's 500 high schools, only 40 have any auto education programs. That means students might not easily learn about the many career opportunities the world of motor sports offers.

With its education program, World of Speed is filling that big void. The program started in fall 2015 as a partnership between school districts, World of Speed and Clackamas Community College.
Clackamas provides the instructors and curriculum, World of Speed provides the classrooms, technology, tools and automotive bays, and the districts provide the motivated students.

Six school districts, and 60-plus students, participate, including students from Canby, North Marion and West Linn-Wilsonville school districts.

The Banys hope to expand those programs.

“Our mission really shines here with the entire team and facility to educate, entertain, preserve through the celebration of motor sports right here in Wilsonville," said Sally Bany.

Click on the picture above to take a look at how Tualatin High students, in their first-term class, are putting their shiny new red tool boxes to work.

Cathy Cheney
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