

Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year

Patrick D. Carter

Indiana Wing

Mr Patrick Carter has distinguished himself by the exceptional use of aerospace education to enrich the teaching of traditional science at New Tech Institute in Evansville, Indiana. He has taught physics, advanced physics, honors physics, and principals of engineering at New Tech Institute since August 2011.



Carter led students in the development of a wind tube for simulating flight, in collaboration with the Evansville Museum of Art, History and Science. The project became a permanent exhibit that will enable museum guests to learn about the effects of wind on objects in flight. He also led a project to build a 1/3 scale model of a P-47 Thunderbolt, donated to the Evansville Wartime Memorial. During World War II, Republic Aviation in Evansville built the P-47 Thunderbolt. The students learned about aircraft control surfaces and even molded sheet metal into proper form in the school lab. To further enrich his lessons, he brought in a former P-47 pilot to talk to students.

Carter, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in education, also has extensive involvement in with the Southwest Indiana STEM Resource Center at the University of Southern Indiana. He champions student participation in science fairs and his students have won the Tri -State and Hoosier State Science Fairs, and one student placed fourth in the world of Engineering at the International Science Fair.

Mr Carter is the recipient of the 2020 Indiana Air Force Association Teacher of the Year Award, 2020 P-47 Memorial Chapter (141) Teacher of the Year, and 2019 Alcoa Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award. He originally became a Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education member in 2016.