

# Atlantic Aviation Class hopes to work with IWCC, expand class offerings

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**ATLANTIC** – Aviation Program Instructor Bryce Smith told the Atlantic School Board Wednesday night he would like to work with staff at Iowa Western Community College (IWCC) to expand the program at Atlantic to allow teaching of aircraft maintenance.

Smith said there is a need for more aircraft maintenance employees, and IWCC offers certification courses. IWCC staff and Smith are discussing whether the IWCC facility would be able to teach students aircraft maintenance, and if the class could be located at the Atlantic Airport. Barry and Lori Reid, managers of the airport, agreed a hanger at the airport could be used if equipment was rearranged, and resident Garry Pellett said the city's airport commission also gave a verbal commitment of support to the idea.

Smith said he wanted to talk to the board about the idea because the IWCC facility may need specific equipment or tools if they are able to teach the class, and he may need funding from the board to purchase those items. The board did not take any action on the idea Wednesday night.

Smith said there are 37 high school students in the aviation program and four will graduate in 2024.