

WELCOME TO BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS FEATURED FRIDAY ALUMNI. Today, we would like to recognize 2005 graduate, Todd Addis. Take a moment to read through Todd's amazing accomplishments and soak up his excellent words of advice.

Todd graduated from Benzie Central High School in 2005. He grew up in Lake Ann, where he spent much of his time outdoors, enjoying fishing, hunting, boating, snowmobiling, and all of the great things Northern Michigan has to offer. As a student at Benzie Central, Todd was active with the Ski Team, BCTV, lighting and sound for the auditorium, Student Council, National Honors Society, and graduated as co-valedictorian.

After high school, Todd attended the University of Michigan, majoring in Mechanical Engineering and graduating with honors. During his time at Michigan, he was part of an engineering team that worked in collaboration with the UM Health System and Medical School to design a new biopsy device that would help prevent life-threatening blood loss for patients. Todd also interned at Johnson Controls, Inc., where he supported automotive seating design and manufacturing for their General Motors business unit.

Following graduation, Todd went on to work at Hemlock Semiconductor Corporation (part of Dow Chemical) near Midland, MI, where he managed construction projects involving reactors, process chillers, pumps, heat exchangers, and other chemical processing equipment. While working at Hemlock, Todd also went back to school to earn his Master's Degree in Business Administration, and purchased and fully renovated his first fixer-upper home.

In 2013, Todd accepted a new position at Stryker in Kalamazoo, MI, where he managed projects to design and build custom production line equipment for medical device manufacturing plants in Ireland, Germany, Japan, and Michigan. During his time there, he passed the PE exam to become a Licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan, while also becoming a backyard chicken farmer in his free time.

Most recently, Todd accepted an opportunity at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, MI, a health system consisting of 12 hospitals, a health insurance provider, and numerous medical offices across West Michigan. There, he supports 8 million+ square feet of facility space by managing construction projects involving heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment, building automation, elevators, data centers, and many other critical building systems.

Todd is married to his wife Claire, who was born and raised in Southeast Michigan and earned her Chemical Engineering degree from Purdue University. They live in Rockford, MI, and enjoy visiting Northern Michigan often. They recently welcomed their beautiful baby girl, Sadie, to the family – their most rewarding adventure yet.

The best piece of advice Todd can give to current students is to “work hard to reach your goals, and never settle for anything less than what makes you happy – sometimes life takes you different directions and the path isn't always clear, but just keep moving and you will get where you want to be.”

Todd, we are over the top, #OneBENZIE proud!

