

# Soaring Beyond the Clouds

## Brian Steed Takes Flight



Brian Steed, a member of the class of 2014, is mostly known for two things... often having a sarcastic remark and airplanes. While he did little to involve himself in school activities during his time at Richard B. Sewall High School, he did spend countless hours at the Fairfield County Airport where his passion for all things plane-related grew. With a father possessing a pilot's license and an extensive knowledge of airplane avionics and maintenance, it was inevitable for Brian to pick up an interest.

Brian has been flying in airplanes and learning about how they work since childhood. This interest only increased when Brian and his family took up residence at the Fairfield County Airport when he was in the fifth grade. Because Brian began learning about the maintenance of airplanes at an early age, he quickly began helping his father in the business of repairing airplanes. He later began to expand his knowledge of airplane electronics, making him a useful member of the Airborne Avionics team at the airport.

Aside from repairing and wiring airplanes, Brian also enjoys flying them. When he was younger, his father, a seasoned flight instructor, gave him the occasional lesson, but he did not begin serious training until months before his seventeenth birthday. He quickly earned the required hours to take the test for his pilot's license and passed the test on June 24, 2013, which was also his seventeenth birthday, thus becoming qualified to fly small, single engine planes, such as a Cessna 172. He later acquired the hours to fly complex engines and is currently working to be able to fly multi-engine planes.

When asked why he enjoys flying, Brian replied, "I love the freedom of no rules and no one to tell me where to go or how to get there. Also, it's a major time saver." - article by Cassie Rae Cantrell