

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • March 1, 2019

To many of you, I'm "Mr. Franks" and you may not have a lot of interaction with me. You may think that if you have to meet with me, it's a bad thing.

But I'm like a lot of you. I started at Pickaway-Ross as an Adult Education teacher nearly 30 years ago.

My path to being superintendent wasn't planned. While teaching in Adult Ed, I earned my master's degree and eventually became Adult Education director. While in that role, I continued my education and felt that between what I knew and what I was learning, I could be superintendent.

Not too long ago, the district office was in the front of the building. It was easy to enter the building and chat with staff members in the morning or as I made my way to the cafeteria for lunch.

But the relocation of the district office to the back of the building keeps me away from the hustle and bustle of the Secondary side.

I feel I'm disconnected from all of you and I'd like to change that.

That is why you recently received a flier inviting you to take part in a coffee klatch with me in the next few weeks.

I'm looking forward to "Dialogue with Dennis" to get to know some of you who are new and reconnect with those of you I haven't seen in a while. (Except for Bob Edwards and Kim Graves. I see them enough.)

Dialogue with Dennis

March 4: noon to 4 p.m. Main Campus (Tecumseh Room)

March 5: 8 a.m. to noon Main Campus (Tecumseh Room)

March 6: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Circleville Campus (Room 5)

March 13: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Chillicothe Campus (Industrial Drive)



Superintendent Dennis Franks loves talking about career-technical education and got to do that last week when he took part in a panel discussion at a conference.

Seriously, this is an opportunity for staff members to come to me in an informal setting, get coffee and a snack and talk to me about whatever is on your mind.

We've had a lot of changes in leadership and in career-technical education focus, so I welcome any questions about your program and ideas for new programs and outreach.

This is an exciting time in career-technical education.

While we have and continue to be an opportunity for young people to join the work force after high school, career-technical centers are more than that now. Thanks to college options and certifications, students are just as likely to go to college or do both.

As superintendent, working with and talking to legislators about career-technical education is a big part of my job. Luckily, talking about career-technical education is also one of my favorite parts of my job.

I look forward to talking about that, or anything else on your mind, at one of my sessions.

Dennis Franks is superintendent of Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center. He can be reached at dennis.franks@pickawayross.com.