

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • March 27, 2015

Every year, we experience changes at Pickaway-Ross. This year, a big change occurred in the way that we conducted Sophomore Tours, holding them over four days while students were on campus.



Another change this year that is part of the Sophomore Tour process is the New Student Welcome, taking place next week.

Our students will be out of the building during New Student Welcome, March 31 and April 1, and the incoming juniors will be divided among the two days. Students will arrive at 9:30 each day and be dismissed at 1:15.

On Tuesday, March 31, students from Adena, Chillicothe, Circleville, Paint Valley and Westfall will visit. On Wednesday, April 1, students from Huntington, Logan Elm, Southeastern, Unioto and Zane Trace will be here.

The goal of the New Student Welcome is for our new students to have an opportunity to meet their teachers before orientation in the fall.

In the past, students have toured Pickaway-Ross in December, received an acceptance letter in March and then not had any more contact with us until August.

It's hoped that New Student Welcome will do just that: Welcome our new students and get them excited about joining Pickaway-Ross.

After arriving and being seated in the commons, Principal Shara Cochenour and other administrators and staff members will talk with the students from 9:30 to 10 a.m.



Christine Gotfried led a session for teachers during a snow day to go over the format of New Student Welcome.

Each program instructor will be paired with an academic teacher and from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., students will take part in lab orientation.

During this period, students will be introduced to their program, get a personal advising session with their instructor, provide their program shirt sizes and complete a basic skills assessment.

Counselor Christine Gotfried said the basic skills assessment is a way to establish a baseline of where each student is.

That baseline can then be used for student learning objectives before the school year starts to create goals for the year.

After lab orientation is completed, students and staff members will have lunch in the commons before providing students with a chance to ask questions.

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