

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • April 8, 2016

The Learning Lab's success can be attributed to many things but a big factor is Amy Poorman.



Amy has been working at Pickaway-Ross for five years in Adult Education's Game Plan program.

It was Game Plan's success that was the basis for the Learning Lab.

While Amy still works with Game Plan, she spends most of her time as the new Learning Lab's tutor.

"I help students who are behind in their work get caught up, help with Plato or tutor them," Amy said.

That one-on-one assistance can be play a big role in helping a student succeed, she said.

"Some students learn better that way," she said.

While helping students with their academics is the focus of the Learning Lab, Amy helps in another way.

"Sometimes, students just need to talk and they feel comfortable talking to me."

Amy, who has an associate's degree in education, worked as a preschool teacher in Tennessee for many years before returning about 18 years ago to the Logan Elm area where she grew up. She got a job at Washington Elementary and has been working in education ever since.

Before joining Pickaway-Ross, she ran the learning lab at Logan Elm High School for three years.

In a similar position now, she said she loves the environment of working with students and with teachers assigned to work a period in the lab.



Amy Poorman works with students on a test in the Learning Lab.

"There are always teachers on standby and we work really well together," Amy said.

"And I love working with the kids and getting to know them."

Amy said her day doesn't have a traditional teaching schedule but she enjoys the variety.

"It never gets old. It never gets boring. You learn something new every day."

When there is a lull in her day, she uses the time to help Game Plan students.

"We take that Game Plan mentality and put it in the Learning Lab," said Debbie Wipert, who oversees the program for Adult Education.

Debbie said "We knew what was needed in the Learning Lab.

"We wanted a nurturing person who was going to go above and beyond to help kids be successful and that's what Amy does."

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