

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • April 17, 2015

In an alphabetical listing of nearly 80 school districts, Angela Blanton had to scroll down quite a bit to see if Pickaway-Ross was among the recipients of a grant, but her diligence was rewarded.



In January, the Ohio Department of Education announced that 79 school districts received nearly \$1.2 million in federal funding through the National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant. Pickaway-Ross' grant application was one of 268 submitted to the state requesting funds for the purchase of capital equipment.

Because of initiative shown by Angela, Susan Schwalbauch and Marty Lambert, Pickaway-Ross' cafeteria has a new external 14-by-18-foot walk-in freezer, joining the current 10-by-12-foot freezer.

Angela, Susan and Marty worked last year writing the proposal and gathering quotes from vendors. Then, in January, when e-mails went out announcing the recipients, Angela had the misfortune of being at home.

"I was reading through the list and saw our name and got all excited but I was at home and didn't have anyone to tell," she recalled.

For Susan, "this success was the result of an opportunity, a good idea and lots of teamwork."



Angela Blanton, left, Susan Schwalbauch, center, and Marty Lambert stand inside the new walk-in freezer that was installed last month.

In mid-March, demolition was started by D.E. Huddleston of Chillicothe. Then Advanced Services, also of Chillicothe, installed the freezer.

"The student population has really grown and we are getting more commodity money," Angela said, explaining that the new freezer will allow for more food storage and better menu planning.

The freezer will be in use this year, after lights and shelves are installed.

Angela can't wait.

"The kids won't see it, but it's really going to benefit them."

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