

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • April 28, 2017

A big part of the job for Pickaway-Ross instructors is preparing students for the work force. And our job placement numbers show that we're doing a great job.



In addition to a demand for workers in the trades, several changes that we've made are benefiting our students and reflecting well on Pickaway-Ross.

This year, Allen Koker joined the team of Kim Graves and Katt Marriott as a CBI apprenticeship coordinator. Another change is putting a focus on the career academies. Allen oversees Transportation and Kim oversees Construction.

This week, the team organized job fairs for those academies on campus and one for CBI, held off campus.

"This is a nice turnout for the first year," Allen said of the Transportation Academy job fair that was held Tuesday. "We're throwing things on the wall to see what sticks and already have some ideas for next year."

Students from each automotive lab were able to meet with representatives from companies and technical schools and could be interviewed.

Naomi Stonerock, human resources manager for On-Board Services, attended the Transportation Academy job fair and interviewed students who could be placed at DuPont, one of their clients.

"You have great candidates," she said. "They all seem to be very driven and focused on getting a job."

On Wednesday, students in the Construction Academy met with potential employers and other industry representatives. Aaron McManes, who set up Wednesday's job fair, said four seniors and four juniors each



ABOVE: Nash Ransdell, right, a senior in Carpentry, speaks with a representative from Elford. **BELOW:** Brad Ward, a senior in Outdoor Power Technologies, is on job placement at Davis Tires.



received job offers during the fair.

Companies and schools represented at the two job fairs included Acoustic Ceiling & Partition, Aerotek, Cleveland Construction, Construction Systems Inc., Corna Kokosing, Cummins, Elford, G&J Paving, Heskett Construction, Kokosing, Lincoln Tech, Nourse, NST, Ohio Carpenters Union, Rhoads Construction, Wyotech and YUSA Corp.

The team's work is paying off, as there has been a 17 percent increase in job placement this year of Transportation Academy students alone, said Mark Moss, job placement coordinator.

This year, we have 130 students employed overall, an increase from 117 in the 2015-16 school year, Mark said.

These numbers reflect highly the successes that we're having with our students in the work force.

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