

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • May 12, 2017

**D**ebbie Adkins Luther has been a frequent visitor to Pickaway-Ross for more than 20 years but with Ed Ryan's retirement this month, that will come to an end.



Ed – who was a Columbus police officer for 20 years before joining Pickaway-Ross' staff in 1992 – has impressed Debbie with his teaching methods.

“He brings his (police officer) experience to the classroom,” she said. “He provides his high school students with everything he is allowed to for preparing them for law enforcement.”

Debbie, owner of Police Tactics & Training, is a retired agent with the Ohio Investigative Unit and has been involved in law enforcement education for more than a decade.

Similarly, Ed says Debbie brings a wealth of complimentary experience that his students couldn't get from him alone.

In 1996, she met with Ed and former instructor Kenny Henn about presenting a program to their Criminal Justice students on the consequences of underage drinking.

“She has a different perspective on law enforcement,” he said, explaining that she conveys “the importance of continuous training and presents different opportunities available (to students) in law enforcement.”

That program, Sober Truth, led to Debbie working with the Criminal Justice students to provide training with ASP batons and in unarmed self-defense, a Taser demonstration with cadets from the Southern Ohio Police Academy, and a Mace chemical exercise.

Ed said that when he met Debbie, he didn't expect the partnership would last 20 years. But he also didn't expect he'd be at Pickaway-Ross for 25 years.

The Mace training was first offered in 1986, Debbie said, and Pickaway-Ross may have been the first high school to offer it in their law enforcement training

He's enjoyed the time spent teaching and seeing his students mature during the course of his program. He will miss that, he said, as well as the camaraderie of his co-workers.

“Ed explained to administrators that it was something (students) would need if they were in a law enforcement career.”

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*Dennis Franks is superintendent of Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center. He can be reached at [dennis.franks@pickawayross.com](mailto:dennis.franks@pickawayross.com).*



LEFT: An offer by Debbie Adkins Luther to teach a program on the consequences of underage drinking to Ed Ryan's Criminal Justice students was the start of a 20-year partnership.

FAR LEFT: Debbie, in red, explains to students the ASP baton training.