

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • May 18, 2018

I've often said that a lot of what we do at Pickaway-Ross couldn't work without the partnerships that we create.



That was illustrated Wednesday night at the dinner we hosted for members of our advisory committees and employers.

Organized by Kim Graves, Allen Koker and Katt Marriott, staff members and supervisors welcomed about 45 guests.

Jamie Nash shared with employers how the partnerships we've established have resulted in some impressive statistics: in the Transportation Academy, 44 percent of our students are placed in a job in their career field; in Human Services, it's 53 percent; in Construction and Manufacturing, it's 73 percent; Machining is close to 100 percent; and Welding and CBI each have a 100 percent placement rate.

"If it wasn't for you guys, we couldn't do this," Jamie told the audience.

Behind all of those statistics are students we are preparing to enter industries that are growing.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, construction employment, for example, increased by 17,000 in April. Over the year, the industry has

added 257,000 jobs.

Employment in health care increased by 23,000 in April, a fairly consistent number, the Bureau reported, with gains of about 26,000 jobs each month for the past year.

And in food services and drinking places, employment increased by 15,000 in April, adding 228,000 jobs over the year.

Jana Detty, human relations manager for McDonald's in Chillicothe, has been an advisory committee member for five years, as well as employing a number of our students.

Jana said that the committees benefit employers and educators by bringing everybody together and learning what employers' needs are and what students are available.

"One business may be looking for something different than what we're looking for," she said.

"We have 15 kids right now from Mr. (Jeffrey) Metzler at Unioto. He knows what we're looking for and he can call me right away and say, 'I have someone for you,'" she said.

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



FAR LEFT: Jamie Nash shared some impressive job-placement statistics during the welcome portion of the event.



LEFT: Advisory committee members each received a placard in recognition of their contribution to Pickaway-Ross.