

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Aug. 17, 2018

If you've visited the Ross County Fair during Pickaway-Ross' kiddie tractor pull contest, you've heard the rallying cry of "pooooosh, pooooosh" from Danny Morris.

Danny had an idea to have a kiddie tractor pull after seeing similar events at state fairs.

"I told (Brent) Ebert we just ought to build one as a project for the kids," Danny said.

In addition to the Outdoor Power and Machining students, Tommy Collier's Welding students helped and teacher Jerry Copley worked with all of them on the math needed to properly construct the sled.

"It took us about a year and there was a lot of trial and error," Danny said.

But the annual kiddie tractor pull at the Ross County Fair, where the event was unveiled five years ago, is now a fan favorite.

"It just kind of went wild," Danny said.

So much so that he and Brent have run the event at our Community Expo and the Laurelville Fireman's Old Time Festival. The tractor pull is such a good idea, two employees at another career center talked on our Facebook page about hosting an event.

Danny says he enjoys running the event and has plans to improve the tractor's steering and repair the seat. Another change he envisions is to increase the current pull distance from 25 feet to 27 or 30 or increase the weight.

"We're getting more athletic kids," he said.

The Ross County Fair is a summertime tradition,



and staff members and students give their time at the Pickaway-Ross Building at the fairgrounds.

In addition to providing students with schedules, the building is busy with Cosmetology students braiding hair; Early Childhood Education running a children's activities area that this year included two days of Kindness Rocks (a Career Tech Kids Day session that has taken off); program demonstrations; and blood pressure checks by Adult Education Public Safety.

The fair is just one activity that staff members and students find time for during their summer, as several represented Pickaway-Ross at national CTSO conferences.

In early July, four students went to Atlanta for the FCCLA conference. Meredith Robinson, Hannah Runkle, James Shuman and Jason Shuman all won silver in their competitions.

And in June, our SkillsUSA chapter's Community Service Team, made up of Emma Bretz, Remington Chrysler and Samantha Moore, placed fifth at nationals and senior Jayson Scott placed seventh in Electrical.

The dedication shown throughout the summer proves to me that the 2018-19 school year will be excellent, too.

Welcome back. I look forward to another great year.

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LEFT: Danny Morris (left), and Brent Ebert help a young rider get ready during this year's kiddie tractor pull. CENTER: Josh Young gives a schedule to a student at the fair. RIGHT: SkillsUSA members strike a pose at the national conference.