

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Aug. 26, 2016

With the start of another school year we have some new things to experience, such as the Environmental Engineering, Health Administration and RAMTEC programs, and some annual events, such as the Battle of the Bands (Sept. 9), trick-or-treat with the preschoolers (Oct. 27) and the Physics 250 derby races (Jan. 6 and May 12).

Another annual event is the presentation of service awards. This week, we recognized 30 employees with a cumulative 360 years among them.



From left, Laura VanCuren, Robin Bussey and Dana Anderson



the office manager, a position she performed with distinction for 24 years. Robin starts her 25th year here as the financial operations analyst in the Treasurer's Office.

Dana started as an instructor for Basic Food Service, a position she had for five years. She then started the Option IV program before moving into a supervisor's role.

Robin – who completed our Accounting/Computing program in 1980 – and Dana said that working here this long makes Pickaway-Ross feel like a second home and the people here another family.

Laura, who also started as a clerk typist, became the superintendent's executive assistant in 1999. When I became superintendent in 2010 I was very lucky to have Laura – with a decade of experience – to help me.

When Laura applied at Pickaway-Ross, she said didn't give much thought to making it a career but now she can't imagine working anyplace else.

"As the last 25 years have flown by I appreciate the opportunities that working here have afforded me.

"When I hear our students report on a new job that we trained them to do I am very proud to be a small part of it," she said.

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



20 years: from left, Bill Anderson, Connie Kiser and Kevin Krebs



15 years: from left, Tracey Eyre, Shara Cochenour and Brent Ebert



10 years: from left, Verdie Williams, Donna Walker, Avonia Dearth, Susan Schwalbauch, Ernie Karshner and Darren Plessinger



5 years: from left, Scott Snyder, Mark Johnston, Ryan Holbrook, Rhonda McGuire, Grace King and Gary Robinson

worked at Pickaway-Ross for a quarter-century: Dana Anderson, Robin Bussey and Laura VanCuren.

While I'm glad that employees stay at Pickaway-Ross for many years, I also appreciate that during their time here they are able to move from one position to another as their skills grow.

For example, Robin Bussey started here as a clerk typist in Adult Education, working evenings. In 1992, she moved to Off-Campus Programs as

Other employees recognized were Eddie Sims (20 years); Jeffrey Holbert, Amy Groff, Bobby Lombardo, Amy Noltemeyer and Amy Osborne (10 years); and Alycia Vollmar and Sandy Wisecup (5 years).