

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Sept. 15, 2017

**W**hen Pickaway-Ross joined MADE with Ross County's other seven schools, staff members stepped up as well.

One such person is Kristy Landman, who has worked as our security guard since 2015.



Kristy began her career in law enforcement as a dispatcher at the Waverly Police Department and later became a police officer. She worked for 35 years as a Security Specialist at the A-plant in Piketon and is currently a reserve deputy at the Ross County Sheriff's Office.

A graduate of Huntington High School and an EMT with the Huntington Township Fire Department from 1995 until 2008, she has a strong love for the Huntington school district.

Her connection to Pickaway-Ross started before she joined our staff, however. Her son, Joe, completed our Accounting & Computing Program in 2002.

Volunteering with the MADE (My Attitude Determines Everything) drug-free club, Kristy found a way to combine her love for Huntington with her Pickaway-Ross family.

Last year, for example, she created a basket to be raffled at a Huntington High School event, with the proceeds benefiting Huntington and Pickaway-Ross' MADE chapters.

Kristy is very happy with the success that the drug-free clubs have had in just their first year.

Last year, there were 1,695 students enrolled in Ross County, representing more than 45 percent of the high school population, Kristy said. At Pickaway-Ross, there were 242 students enrolled last year.

"My wish is for even more this year. My hope is that every student will want to be a part of changing the future of their lives and their community. I believe in this program."



Joe Landman completed Pickaway-Ross' Accounting & Computing program in 2002. His mom, Kristy, hopes her work with MADE will help save other young people from using drugs. She has created a scholarship in her son's memory.

Kristy's support of this program is deeply personal.

"My son was addicted and I wanted to do something to help others. My only child died on April 9, 2017.

"No one understands the pain, heartache and the feeling of complete helplessness until someone you love is a victim of this horrible disease. I will do anything I can to keep another family from burying their child."

To that end, Kristy has created the Joseph Landman Memorial MADE Scholarship. It will be awarded to a Pickaway-Ross MADE member beginning this spring.

"Joe was 33 and had his whole life ahead of him. He had hopes and dreams and never thought this would happen to him. After he returned from rehab, he enrolled in classes to become a substance abuse counselor. He wanted to help others recover."

Kristy hopes her work with MADE will keep others "from ruining their life and their future."

The amount and number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the amount of donations received.

---

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