

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Oct. 31, 2014

As those who've invested their careers in career-tech education, we believe in what we do at Pickaway-Ross.

It's nice when others see what we do here and believe in it as well.



Gov. Kasich has been a strong supporter of career-tech education and a few weeks ago, Jim Wasil and Marilyn Ashcraft, both with the lieutenant governor's office, toured Pickaway-Ross.

Organized by Kim Graves, Career-Based Intervention apprenticeship coordinator, the tour included Noah Brown and Bruce Tokar from DaNate Sign Co. in Columbus. The foursome, with Kim and Grace King, student placement specialist, visited most of our program labs and heard about each program from students.

"Our students did a tremendous job representing their programs and our school," Kim said. "All of the guests were highly impressed with our programs, equipment and students."

Kim said the visitors were so interested in what the students and instructors had to say that the planned "minute or two presentations" went longer than expected.

"Our goal is to get business and industry into our building to show them some of the great things going on here at Pickaway-Ross. It's one of the best ways to build partnerships and establish future employers," Kim said.

Consider inviting visitors to your lab. Early this year, science teacher Todd Jean invited Amy Fitton, a naturalist with Ohio State Parks, to speak to his classes about snakes. And each year, Aaron McManes invites a representative from the carpenters' union to speak with his junior



Senior Terry Stewart demonstrates to Jim Wasil and Marilyn Ashcraft one of the pieces that can be made in machining.

carpentry students about opportunities in the field.

Last week, Ruth Ann Falconer, program coordinator for high school dual enrollment at Columbus State Community College, spoke with students about articulation agreements between Pickaway-Ross and Columbus State.

"We want to bring a spotlight to the partnership we have with Pickaway-Ross," Ruth Ann said of her visit.

She brought with her posters for our labs that reinforce the fact that completing a Pickaway-Ross program can also earn college credits for students while in high school.

This wasn't Ruth Ann's first visit to Pickaway-Ross and her assessment of our school as one of the leaders in career tech is gratifying.

Every visitor who leaves Pickaway-Ross with a good impression is another opportunity to spread the word about us.

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