

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Dec. 5, 2014

Change can come from unexpected places.

Last year, when the harsh winter disrupted the traditional two-day sophomore tour schedule, Principal Shara Cochenour and the guidance counselors transitioned to Plan B, in which students visited Pickaway-Ross in smaller groups over multiple days.



Because our students were in classes during the rescheduled tours, sophomores from the 10 home schools had a better representation of what students experience at Pickaway-Ross. The result was an increase in applications.

That success spurred a change in this year's sophomore tours, which will take place next week.

Now scheduled for four days – Dec. 8-11 – sophomores will get to visit their three lab choices while teachers are teaching and students are learning.

The new schedule isn't without some bumps. Adding anywhere from 100 to 200 students to the Pickaway-Ross population will be a tight squeeze. To that end, tour organizers have added curricular days to the schedule.

Pickaway-Ross students will be provided with an alternate academic activity, such as independent study, a college visit or job shadowing. Christy Gottfried sent a schedule Monday that indicates which students are scheduled for a curricular day.

Also this year, the LAMPS committee – working with Angela Blanton in the cafeteria – is bringing back the community dinner that was a part of the Open House night for many years.

While the Open House has traditionally been an opportunity to engage with prospective students and their parents, the event is also a time for the public to see what Pickaway-Ross has to offer.

By reinstating the Community Dinner – which this year will consist of bean soup, corn bread, cookie and beverage for \$5 – we hope community members will tour the campus and talk with instructors about the programs we offer.

The Community Dinner is open to all and I hope you'll help spread the word about the event.

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During Sophomore Tours, above, students visit labs and get to try out program equipment.



At the annual Open House, taking place from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, students and parents can visit with academic teachers in the commons and with program instructors in the lab. This year, the event also will include a Community Dinner.

