

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Jan. 17, 2020

At the close of 2019, Pickaway-Ross said goodbye to lifelong educator and longtime board member Byron Welch, whose term expired Dec. 31.



Pickaway-Ross has been fortunate to have a board of education made up of people from industry and education.

Byron joined our board after being a social studies teacher for 39 years in the Teays Valley and Logan Elm school districts.

"I didn't have to work that long but I enjoyed it. My last years were the best years," Byron said.

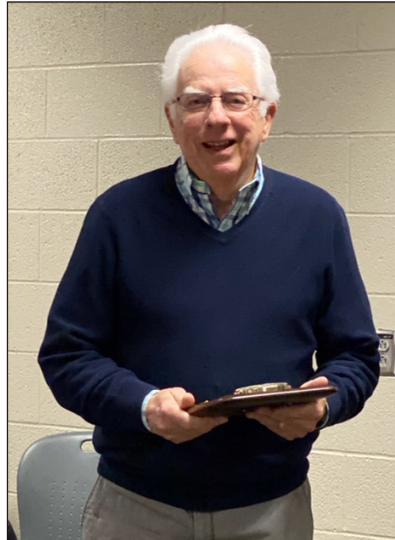
And after he retired from teaching, he said that he felt he still had more to give.

In addition to serving on the Pickaway-Ross board, he also was a member of the Pickaway County Educational Service Center's Governing Board, serving on both for 16 years.

"I have enjoyed my work on the board as an opportunity to give back to this area that I love," he said in a statement at his last board meeting.

In addition to his background in education, Byron also has experience in agriculture, running several farms since 1960.

Both of these areas benefitted our board and, in turn, students.



Board member Byron Welch was presented with a plaque of appreciation at last month's board meeting. Byron served on our board for 16 years.

"My dual background in education and agriculture, along with my lifetime residency in Pickaway and Ross counties, has given me insight as to what is needed for students to obtain successful employment locally and within the state," Byron wrote in a questionnaire when seeking reappointment to his board seat.

While I will miss Byron personally and professionally, I agree whole-heartedly with his final statement to the board:

"I leave an outstanding board that I am sure will continue to provide leadership in the future. What an opportunity I've had at Pickaway Ross!"



Front row, from left: Todd Stevens, Sue Hopkins, Joy Shoemaker and Jeff Hartmus; back row, from left, Andrew Vitatoe, Darrell Cottrill, Tony Reeser, Richard Everman, Bob Bower, Byron Lloyd and Jon Saxton.

January is School Board Appreciation month.

As we enter the second half of the school year, I want to extend my appreciation to the men and women who volunteer their time to serve on our board.

Please join me in thanking them.

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