

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • March 19, 2021

When Tim Vollet submitted his letter notifying me that he would be retiring effective the end of this month, he wrote that the relationships he developed with his colleagues will never be forgotten.



And it's clear when talking with his colleagues that they won't forget him and what he brought to Pickaway-Ross.

"Shortly after I began working here, Tim walked past my desk singing a Beatles song and I finished the lyric," said Michele Tisdale, front desk receptionist. "We were instant friends."

Michele's story is echoed by other colleagues who talk of his infectious laugh, call him a ray of sunshine or appreciate him for knowing when words won't do.

"I'll never forget when my mother passed away a couple of years ago," Math teacher Verdie Williams said. "Tim coming in the day I came back and giving me a hug and never saying a word. It meant a lot to me that he came by."

Tim, who joined Pickaway-Ross in 2000 as a Social Studies teacher, said he loved reading about American history since he was a kid.

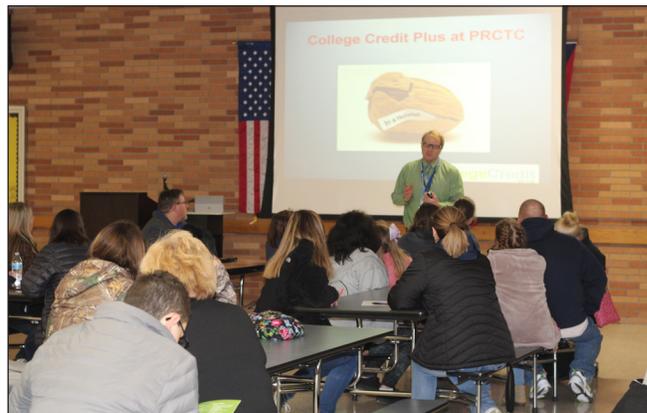
"Teaching offered an opportunity to share my passion with generations of students and hopefully play a small part in convincing them to pursue their own dreams and passions," he said.

He recounts anecdotes of running into former students: one from Criminal Justice who now is a police officer; a Health Science student continuing her dream to be a nurse by going to Shawnee State University; and a student from the Auto Collision program who now owns his own business.

"The reason I love Pickaway-Ross is because that is what teachers, support staff and administrators all do: Try and set kids off on a path to achieve their dreams."

Retired Principal Shara Cochenour said Tim shared his lifelong love of history with his students.

"His class offerings and teaching style allowed



At a 2019 informational session, Tim Vollet talks to students and their families about the College Credit Plus program.

students to form and express opinions while also learning to respect the thoughts and opinions of others. I always admired his passion for his subject matter and his ability to convey that to his students."

Since 2014, he has been curriculum coordinator, writing curriculum, helping teachers with WebXams and overseeing College Credit Plus.

Just as students appreciated Tim as a teacher, teachers valued him in his new role.

"I knew I could always count on him, all of the time, but especially when testing time rolled around," said Kathy Ream, a Family & Consumer Sciences teacher at Circleville High School. "Tim has a reassuring way about him."

Jan Altier, the Sports Medicine instructor at our Circleville campus, agreed.

"The best part of working with Tim is no matter the topic at hand, Tim is very good at creating a stress-free environment."

With retirement less than a week away for Tim, stress-free plans are on the horizon.

"I plan to play a lot of golf, research history, and travel. This summer, I am visiting the grave of a Chillicothe kid who was killed in WWI and is buried in France."

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