

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Dec. 11, 2020

In any workplace, it's often the people behind the scenes who are integral to its success. Such is the case with Robin Bussey.

Now the financial operations analyst in the Treasurer's Office, Robin started at Pickaway-Ross in 1991 as an evening secretary in Adult Education. But Robin's connection here started in 1979, when she was a student in our accounting/computing program.

Her advocacy for our career center has been evident in her 29 years here. In fact, very few people have been involved to the extent and success that she has.

After working in Adult Education for a few years, she became the secretary for off-campus programs, a job she held for nearly 15 years.

I know that Robin was the go-to person with all of our satellite programs. We had 10 schools, 14 buildings, up to 50 teachers; they all knew that Robin could help them with what they needed. They all saw her as an extension of their program. When she left for a job in the Treasurer's Office they were all, well, depressed.

"Robin brought excellent customer service skills to the Treasurer's Office and she seamlessly applied those skills to the financial aspects of the financial analyst position," said Ben Vanhorn, former treasurer.

"Robin is dedicated, loyal and deeply cares about the staff and students of Pickaway-Ross."

In addition to her many roles at school, her contributions to our community engagement activities were even greater. When I created LAMPS, Kevin Krebs and Robin got the committee up and running. Among the events that Robin has been involved in were Senior Citizens

To say Robin wore a lot of hats is fitting. For several years she helped out as Mrs. Claus in the preschool and during Pancakes with Santa.



Presenting Robin Bussey with her retirement plaque was bittersweet for me as she brought — and gave — so much to Pickaway-Ross.

Day, the Superintendents Brunch and the Principals Lunch, Community Expo and Pancakes with Santa.

Robin, with Tracey Eyre, was also instrumental in planning activities at the Pickaway-Ross building for the Ross County Fair. The pair scheduled activities from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. that week for years, making our building a destination for fairgoers that put the spotlight on programs, staff members and students.

Tracey, who started at Pickaway-Ross 20 years ago, said she and Robin knew of each other through their children's 4-H activities. That connection made them the perfect pair for our Ross County Fair presence. But her passion, said Tracey and Ben, was working with the satellite teachers.

"She excelled at taking care of the staff who were not as visible on campus," Ben said.

She also was an asset to her colleagues at main campus. Shara Cochenour, who retired as principal in 2019, credited Robin with helping her learn the EMIS system.

"Robin was invaluable," Shara said. "She helped me get all the information to the teachers and entered correctly. We were a very effective team."

Much as she did with Tracey and Ben, a friendship developed outside campus.

"Robin is someone I can genuinely call a true friend and our friendship means the world to me," Shara said. "We may not spend that much time together, but I do love her like a sister. I am grateful that our lives crossed at PRCTC and I wish her the very best in the years to come."

I wholeheartedly second that.