

Board of Education Update

Michael Knott
High School Director
January 14, 2021

Staff Recognition

Special thanks to Gail Gillett, Paula Vantilburg and Miriam Owens for organizing a 12 days of Christmas countdown for staff and students. Staff were surprised with small gifts of appreciation that really helped lift the spirits of everyone leading into the holiday break. Thank you Santa's elves!

Mrs. Ashley Cline, Mrs. Sarah Koch and Mrs. Jill Dewert, along with the Interact Club were able to put together fundraising efforts that raised over a thousand dollars for Toss-a-Toy.

Toss-a-Toy is a local initiative that provides toys for families in need around Van Wert county (and the surrounding counties). Their efforts helped families in our area have gifts under the tree for Christmas.

Upcoming Events

January 18 -- Martin L. King Day (No School)

Report of Supervisory Area Progress, Current Initiatives

Mike Knott -- Director

We are excited to provide a virtual experience to prospective sophomores and parents during the month of February. A special thank you to our leadership, safety and tech teams for all of their hard work in preparing these new experiences for our prospective students.

We are also working on establishing pre-apprenticeships for several of our programs for the 2021-2022 school year. This will give our students another opportunity to earn a 12-point credential in their field.

Ted Verhoff – Trade and Industry Supervisor

There are 20 high students currently participating in the CDL program this school year. The classroom portion has just been completed and the driving portion will start January 4.

The Regional SkillsUSA competitions will be an online format this year with the State SkillsUSA competition still to be determined.

AWS testing was held on December 17 and 18 and we will know the results in early January in regards to how many students have passed. Thanks to Gary Cearns for organizing and scheduling the testing..

Paula VanTilburg – Business and Service Supervisor

Leigh Carey, Health Technology instructor, received her new Phlebotomy equipment to go along with the phlebotomy course that was added to the curriculum this school year. This equipment is a chemistry analyzer common in many medical laboratories. The machine can run the following tests: total cholesterol, liver function tests (ALT, AST, etc.), glucose, & kidney function tests. In January, we will be receiving our hematology analyzer for whole blood. Leigh hopes to set that one up to run CBCs, hemoglobin/hematocrits, etc.

CTSOs (BPA, HOSA, FCCLA, SkillsUSA) are beginning to work on regional competition. As expected, all events will be held virtually this year.

A corporate recruiter for Cooper Farms will be interviewing two Networks Systems students about different opportunities in the IT department within Cooper Farms.

Tonya Temple – Student Services Supervisor

We had a good 1st semester here at Vantage Career Center, which ended on Dec. 22nd.

Throughout January Mrs. Owens and Ms. Temple will be visiting the associate schools and presenting to the sophomore classes about the opportunities available at Vantage Career Center. The presentation includes a video detailing the 17 programs available. We will also be using the Vantage website to promote Sports Exercise Therapy, explain the application process, and then follow up with a question and answer session.

Sophomore Visit Day – has been pushed back to the week of March 22nd.

Academic staff members have been working with our students who will need to take any portion of the End of Course Testing this Spring. The End of Course tests will be administered the week of April 19th.

Vantage Career Center will be administering the ACT this Spring, March 9th.

Customized Training

We are completing training with Tenneco, and ATR completed the first week of January. Cooper's first session of training will end in late January and they have requested another session for additional maintenance staff to begin in February.

Eaton has enrolled one of their maintenance people in our welding program and Marty Katterheinrich will be meeting with their Engineering and Process Manager later this month to discuss additional training.

Jane Schmid, who is the new Workforce Development person working with Stacy Adam in Economic Development, recently toured Vantage and we are now working with her on a TechCred application for PHD Precision. This application is for Lathe and Mill training which will be provided by Larry Ray.

Advisory Committee Meetings

We completed our mandatory advisory committee meetings for 2020, meeting with members of the EMT, STNA, Police Academy, Welding and Medical Assisting committees. We received a lot of valuable input and insight into the current job market and local needs. As always we appreciate the support of these committee members who are so helpful as we deliver workforce development training programs.

COE

The Adult Education staff participated in training provided by Sandy Elliot of Wayne County Career Center to help us with preparation of our COE Self Study and evidence to be able to efficiently organize our information for the virtual visit in May. Mary Ann Falk is providing us with further instruction on creating the Google Page for our study.

New Classes

Advanced Welding began the first week of January. Medical Assisting and EMT are scheduled to begin January 25.

Credential Count

At this point, our credential count for the academic year 19-20 is as follows:

Police Academy-4
Practical Nursing-18
Fire Fighter-4
EMT-6
CDL-4
STNA-28
RMA – 1
CPR – 35
First Aid – 10
EVOC - 4