OUR MISSION

Penta Career Center is a high-performing school that provides:
- Options and opportunities
- Real-world learning
- Partnerships with business and industry
- Productive citizens

OUR COMMITMENT

The staff at Penta Career Center is committed to:
- Achieving excellence
- Delivering results
- Responding to our communities
- Creating an environment for success
Dear Outstanding Alumni and Friends of Penta:

Welcome to Penta Career Center’s 26th Outstanding Alumni Awards. Since 1993, we are pleased to have recognized 151 former students with this honor. We are happy to celebrate this occasion with representatives from our 16 member schools who are equally proud of our Outstanding Alumni Award recipients.

This year, six former students, who have demonstrated excellence and success in their careers, will be honored. Each recipient has their own unique story to share about how their career-technical education at Penta helped them achieve their goals.

Our alumni honored this year, frequently mention how their Penta training provided them with a strong foundation to build a successful career. They recognize the caring nature of the Penta staff who helped launch them on a career path to be productive and successful in life.

These Outstanding Alumni recipients are advocates for education and training beyond high school. They believe that education is a life-long process in order to be competitive in today’s global economy.

Another common trait among our Outstanding Alumni recipients is the pride they have demonstrated in their professional careers. This year’s recipients have a strong work ethic and longevity in their careers.

Many of the Penta Outstanding Alumni recipients are active volunteers, who enjoy giving back to their communities through youth groups and non-profit organizations. They also participate in professional organizations within their career fields and through their employers.

At Penta, we are always happy to see our alumni do great things. Their personal achievement validates our mission and commitment to help students achieve excellence, success and most of all, become productive citizens.

Congratulations to our 2018 Penta Outstanding Alumni!

Sincerely,

Ronald W. Matter

Superintendent
Penta Career Center
David Daniels believes the training and education he received through Penta Career Center gave him a firm foundation to help him prepare for a successful career. David graduated from Perrysburg High School and completed Penta’s Power Equipment Technology program in 1995. He used the skills from his Penta training to work his way through college.

During high school, David worked at a mini-engine repair shop in Perrysburg. He also worked for UPS and The Andersons while attending Owens Community College. In 1997, David changed his career focus and decided to attend Hocking College to study Recreation & Wildlife Management and major in Ranger Services.

During his time at Hocking College, David enjoyed several incredible work experiences that prepared him for his career after college. He worked at Triangle X Ranch in Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming as a rafting guide. Dave also worked for two summers as a seasonal park ranger for Yellowstone National Park.

“My background and training with power equipment helped me get the job at Yellowstone,” says David. “Although I enjoyed my experience in Yellowstone and wanted to become a ranger for the National Parks, I really didn’t like the winters out west.”

David lived in Bozeman, Montana for a year to determine whether or not he should pursue employment in that area. He ultimately decided to return to the Toledo area and worked for On-Line Logistics and Tireman to save money. During this time, David entered the police academy at Owens Community College.

In 2005, David graduated from the police academy and within a few months was hired as a reserve police officer for the City of Norwalk, Ohio. As a reserve officer, David was honored as the Reserve Officer of the Year. In 2006, he was sworn in as a full-time patrol officer.

David finds his career as a police officer very rewarding. In 2013, he was selected to serve as the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) officer. In this role he works with all the fifth grade students in the City of Norwalk. He presents D.A.R.E. lessons to the students from October through January every school year.

David is proud of his many roles with the police department. In 2015, he became a detective and in 2018 he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. David is also a firearms instructor for the police department.

Community service and family are both very important to David. He has coached youth soccer and wrestling and will soon help with a basketball team. He and his wife, Jennifer, have been married for 14 years. They have three children, Addison, age 11; Kylah, age 9; and Zane, age 6.
Kristi Leigh Foreman has fond memories of Penta Career Center’s Marketing Education program at Maumee High School. She was involved in many activities through the program and embraced the opportunities afforded to her through DECA. Kristi Leigh believes Marketing Education and DECA provided a solid foundation that has helped her career.

“Through DECA, I learned to research, budget, think outside the box, and most importantly, face my fears,” says Kristi Leigh.

After graduating from Maumee High School in 2000, Kristi Leigh attended Owens Community College and then transferred to Bowling Green State University. She studied Broadcast Journalism and earned high honors. Kristi Leigh graduated magna cum laude with a 4.0 grade point average when she earned her bachelor's degree in 2007. While at BGSU, she was recognized as the Outstanding Broadcast Student and earned awards for her work with the BG 24 News.

Kristi Leigh also studied business during college to complement her work in the financial industry. She earned both the Series 7 and Series 66 credentials so she could work as an investment advisor representative for Generations Financial Group.

Working in the financial industry, along with her high school and college training, enabled Kristi Leigh to prepare for a career in television broadcast. Soon after completing her degree at BGSU, she worked for WTOS (the CW network) in Toledo. In this position, she gained experience as a host and emcee. She also did promotional and voice talent work.

Kristi Leigh landed her first television broadcasting job in 2008 with WUPW-FOX 36 in Toledo, where she worked as a reporter and anchor. During this time, she wrote, shot, edited, and anchored a financial segment called “Market Minute.”

In 2012, Kristi Leigh joined WTVG-13ABC as a reporter and anchor. She worked at the station for three years. Kristi Leigh became an evening anchor in 2015 when she joined WNWO-NBC 24. She also produced and hosted a weekly wellness segment.

Kristi Leigh’s dream job was realized in 2017 when she accepted the position of the main anchor spot for WTOL-TV Toledo 11. She currently anchors the 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts. As the main anchor, she often has the opportunity to emcee special events in the community. Some of her volunteer experiences have included work with Alzheimer’s Association, The Catholic Club and The Victory Center.

In her spare time, Kristi Leigh likes fitness training. She also enjoys traveling with her family to Roatan, Honduras for vacations. Kristi is most proud to be the mother of three children, Ivie, age 11; Beckam, age 8; and Liam, age 7.
As a member of one of the first graduating classes at Penta Career Center, Fred Greive has positive memories of his education. Fred completed Penta’s Agriculture Mechanics program in 1967 and graduated from Otsego High School. He credits Penta and his instructors for preparing him for a successful career.

“The staff encouraged teamwork and attention to details,” says Fred. “I learned life skills that have helped me during my career.”

Soon after completing his Penta training, Fred worked for one year at Owens-Illinois. In 1969 he was drafted and entered the United States Army. Fred served for nine months in Vietnam in the 1st Infantry Division.

After his service in the Army, Fred pursued employment with the Ohio State Highway Patrol. In 1971, he enrolled in the OSHP Academy in Columbus and began working as a trooper that same year.

Fred was assigned to the Defiance, Ohio Post of the OSHP. As a trooper, Fred covered one of the largest square mile areas in Ohio (Defiance, Williams and Henry counties). In this job, Fred investigated traffic crashes and enforced traffic laws.

After two decades of experience as a trooper, Fred was promoted to sergeant of the Toledo Post of the OSHP. Fred worked as a sergeant for six years and was responsible for the day-to-day operations and supervision of personnel.

Fred accepted another promotion in 1997 when he was chosen as a lieutenant-commander of the Toledo Post. He supervised 33 people, reviewed traffic and crash patterns in Lucas and Fulton counties, and handled other important duties. After 27 years with the OSHP, Fred retired in 1998.

Fred has participated in many training sessions in the area of traffic crash reconstruction. He earned several certifications in this field from the University of North Florida, Texas A & M University and Michigan State University. With this type of training and experience, soon after retirement, Fred began working as a traffic crash reconstructionist.

Since 1998, Fred has worked for Valley Technical Services based in Ravenna, Ohio. This is a private company with clients that include insurance companies and law firms. Fred travels all over the United States and coordinates about 140 cases each year.

Fred has enjoyed giving back to the community. He has been an instructor for Buckeye Boys State in the area of law enforcement, and has been active in the Northwest Ohio Troopers Lodge and the National Retired Troopers Association.

Fred and his wife, Carol, have been married for 44 years. They reside in Waterville, with their dog, Jake.
An interest in nature, plants and outdoor activities drew Christina Hammer-Atkins to Penta Career Center as a teenager. She completed Penta’s Horticulture program and graduated from Woodmore High School in 1980. Christina credits Penta for shaping her career.

“My career has not taken the road that I once thought it would, but this fabulous journey started with the decision to attend Penta,” says Christina. “My Penta education prepared me for college while also giving me life-long skills.”

After graduation, Christina attended Hocking College and obtained an associate’s degree in Recreation & Wildlife Technology in 1982. While working as a naturalist in Ohio, Vermont and Maryland, Christina discovered that she enjoyed working with students which led her to a new career path.

In 1990, Christina earned a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education from The University of Toledo. This was the beginning of an enriching career in education that has provided positive experiences and personal success. During this time, Christina moved to Maryland where she worked as an elementary school teacher for the Frederick County Public Schools for five years. She also earned a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland.

In 2004, Christina and her family experienced a short adventure in England when her husband briefly worked in the London area. During this time, Christina had the chance to volunteer at an elementary school in Baston, England. Upon returning to Maryland, Christina worked for the Washington County Public Schools (WCPS) as an elementary teacher and also took on many leadership roles in the areas of professional development and mentoring.

Christina has received several recognitions through the public schools in Maryland. She has been honored as both Science Teacher of the Year, and Classroom Teacher of the Year. In 2012-2013, she was named the WCPS Teacher of the Year and was one of six finalists for the Maryland Teacher of the Year. Christina is proud to have served on the State Superintendent’s Teacher Leadership Committee.

Since 2014, Christina has worked for Grace Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland. She achieved another great career accomplishment in 2017 when she was named elementary principal/chief academic officer for the school.

Christina enjoys volunteer activities. She has taken high school students on a mission trip to Nicaragua and has traveled to Iceland with her daughter to plant trees. In her spare time she loves to hike, garden and travel. Christina is married to Terry and they have two adult children, Allison and Thaddeus.
Michele Rose-Sprunk describes her career path as “a wealth of diverse experiences” because she believes achieving fulfillment and success in her career was a winding road. Michele credits her education and skills at Penta Career Center as the first stepping stone in her career path.

“The skills I learned at Penta provided me with a solid foundation,” says Michele. “My instructor, Miss Sheets, had high expectations and believed in my abilities.”

Michele has overcome many obstacles in her life. She was born deaf in one ear and, as a result of an unfortunate childhood incident, developed profound hearing loss in the other ear. In sixth grade, a speech therapist taught Michele to lipread.

Michele enjoyed working with children and chose to study the Child Care Assistant program at Penta. She completed the program in 1972 and graduated from Lake High School. Although Michele only worked in her field for one year, her career path demonstrates perseverance and dedication to obtaining a fulfilling life.

Since attending college to study education was not affordable for Michele, she chose instead to work at a company in Perrysburg. Her work experience at Crown, Cork & Seal created financial stability and allowed her to explore other career areas outside of work. Michele worked for this company for 28 years in various positions. During this time, she became interested in painting and decorating. She also took classes at Davis College in Toledo.

When Crown, Cork & Seal closed in 2001, Michele began a new journey that ultimately led her to a career as an interior designer. She earned an associate’s degree in Interior Design from Davis College in 2003. Michele applied her creative talents at a variety of experiences at Toledo area employers like Fine Designs Sofa Gallery, The Andersons and Blue Creek Cabinet Company.

Michele moved to Port Charlotte, Florida in 2009 and continues to work there as an interior designer. She specializes in kitchen and bath designs and has been featured in leading design and lifestyle magazine publications.

In her spare time, Michele loves to write. Earlier this year, she had a book published called “Our Unforgettable Cruise” about her Mediterranean cruise. Recently, Michele had an article published about her two sons in Women’s World magazine.

Michele is the mother of two adult sons, Matthew, age 30 and Andrew, who is deceased. She and her husband, Paul, have been married for 10 years and live in Port Charlotte.
Paula (McKenzie) Thomas

When Paula Thomas first attended high school at Penta, she was uncertain about studying Cosmetology. Thanks to the encouragement from her Cosmetology instructors, Mrs. Quigg and Mrs. Hines, Paula gained confidence and excelled in her program.

“My teachers were outstanding and they prepared me for a career that I’ve enjoyed for 47 years,” says Paula. “The education and skills I obtained at Penta gave me self-confidence to begin my career.”

After completing the Cosmetology program at Penta and graduating from Otsego in 1971, Paula immediately began working in her field. She worked for Burton’s Hair Stylists in Maumee while still in high school. The owner, James Bertolina, was a mentor to Paula, teaching and guiding her for six years.

After just a few short years of training with one of the premiere salons in the area, Paula made a big decision and ventured into business ownership. In 1976, at the young age of 23, she opened Paula’s Hairstyling in Grand Rapids, Ohio. Paula has owned and operated the salon for 42 years.

Paula continues to enjoy operating her salon and working with clients. She has clients that range in age from two to 92. During her career she has provided hair care services to residents of nursing homes as well as for the deceased at funeral homes.

Education is important to Paula. She is an advocate for career-technical education and continuing education. She regularly attends courses to keep current with the styles and trends in the industry. Paula has traveled to New York City and Columbus for continuing education classes.

Paula is a devoted volunteer in her community. Not only is she active in the First Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids where she helps prepare dinners, she also helps residents in her community who are ill or unable to drive. Paula is active with the annual Grand Rapids Applebutter Fest and has been a member of Rainbow Girls.

Paula resides in Grand Rapids and is married to Jamie Thomas. They have an adult daughter, Lisa, who lives in Shelby, North Carolina. Paula is proud to be the grandmother to Addison, age 15 and Caden, age 17. In her spare time, she enjoys beading projects.
1993 RECIPIENTS
Dianne (Steindam) Bochi – Oak Harbor
Major Constance Gaiser-Phillips – Anthony Wayne
Joseph Murray, Jr. – Lake
Gary J. Muswick – Springfield
Wanda (Gentry) Snyder – Woodmore
Randy Wax – Woodmore

1994 RECIPIENTS
Nicholas Espinoza, D.O. – Springfield
Jim Kasch – Eastwood
Peter Kolan – Bowling Green
Thomas Kretz – North Baltimore
Suzanne (Boyen) Myers – Anthony Wayne
James Lennox – Lake
Major Daniel Tack – Oak Harbor

1995 RECIPIENTS
Brent Bomer – Bowling Green
Brenda (Carrol) Hoot – Perrysburg
Michael K. Ott – Otsego
Susan (Vidra) Reamsnyder – Rossford

1996 RECIPIENTS
Joe W. Gargac – Genoa
Nicholas B. Getzinger – Otsego
Jason Romer – Anthony Wayne
David Sawicki – Anthony Wayne
Robert Torres – Swanton

1997 RECIPIENTS
James L. Barnes – Bowling Green
Craig A. Bauer – Anthony Wayne
Claudette R. Davis – Perrysburg
Cindy Goodman-Eckel – Eastwood
Paul R. Grimm – Otsego
Christopher S. McIntire – Woodmore
Ben Richmond – Lake

1998 RECIPIENTS
Tony E. Castillo, Sr. – Perrysburg
John R. Colley – Maumee
Cheryl L. (Hirzel) Fitzpatrick – Rossford
Sharon Roman – Rossford
Nicholas K. Shultz – Lake

1999 RECIPIENTS
Tina (Etchison) Dowling – Anthony Wayne
Jonathan Hart – Clay
Martin Sniadecki – Maumee
Robert Steinline – Perrysburg

2000 RECIPIENTS
Rhonda (Delphous) Bliss – Genoa
Pamela (Recker) Buck – Eastwood
James R. Dahms – Adult & Continuing Education
Cynthia (Hart) Millinger – Maumee
John F. Spilker – Anthony Wayne
Richard Young – Lake

2001 RECIPIENTS
Marty Almester – Rossford
Barbara Ceculski – Genoa
Mike Chiarelli – Perrysburg
William E. Harris – Bowling Green
Teri Lynn (Gearig) Murphy – Swanton
Wayne R. Nault – Northwood
Duane Roach – Bowling Green

2002 RECIPIENTS
Jennifer E. Glassford – Woodmore
Deborah S. (Tober) James – Rossford
Bonny (Peske) LaPoint – Anthony Wayne
Synthia L. (Cox) Mahler – Elmwood
Kathy (Woodruff) Powers – Maumee
Scott Sevenish – Rossford

2003 RECIPIENTS
Nancy J. Gerwin – Woodmore
Richard Gross – Perrysburg
John K. Hughes – Lake
Robert E. Landolt – Rossford
Lee Powell – Perrysburg
Mary J. (Paff) Schroeder – Swanton
Frank I. Zygel – Anthony Wayne

2004 RECIPIENTS
Carole A. (Hughes) Brennan – Lake
Lynne (Mullen) Burch – Maumee
Chris Cufi – Northwood
Edward J. Gonzales – Adult & Continuing Education
Jeffery W. Hamans – Woodmore
Gerald O. Herman – Northwood
Thomas G. Overmyer – Grand Rapids (Otsego)
Mike Smith – Otsego

2005 RECIPIENTS
Bryan A. Christy – Bowling Green
Yvonne M. (Kieswether) Fey – Maumee
Fredrick L. Kubitz – Maumee
Rose Mock Scott – Springfield
Wayne A. Strayer – Anthony Wayne
Rebecca L. (Cooper) Stutz – Anthony Wayne

2006 RECIPIENTS
Thomas Berkebile – Perrysburg
Patrick O. Curtis – Maumee
Steven W. Curtis – Otsego
Jarrad C. Egel – Woodmore
Patricia K. Hyland – Perrysburg
Lisa (Ackley) Mattin – Maumee
Danilynn M. Miller – Anthony Wayne

2007 RECIPIENTS
Deric C. Frisch – Perrysburg
Matthew E. Herrig – Elmwood
Frederick C. Lange – Perrysburg
Edward J. Stribny – Lake
David W. Terry – Rossford
Kewyn Louis Williams – Springfield

2008 RECIPIENTS
Tony J. Anteu – Rossford
George C. Byington Jr. – Oak Harbor
Benjamin L. Crole – Northwood
David Gillette – Springfield
Diane S. (Asmus) Hemminger – Otsego
Robert J. Ostiflin – Anthony Wayne
Jennifer L. (Byington) Wilkins – Oak Harbor

2009 RECIPIENTS
Stephen G. Hunter – Bowling Green
Kenneth Metzger – Northwood
Becky Pegorsch – Maumee
Ronald J. Porter – Lake
Cara Ricci-Challen – Oak Harbor
William Slane – Woodmore
Mark A. Travis – Genoa

2010 RECIPIENTS
Douglas Felt – Maumee
Henry “Hank” Fowler – Anthony Wayne
Matthew Gilbert – Perrysburg
Kimberly Morelock – Rossford
Jeffrey Pettit – Lake
Brent Thielen – Lake

2011 RECIPIENTS
Janea Makowski – Lake
Tamara (Shiffert) Rost – Eastwood
Matthew Simpson – Anthony Wayne

2012 RECIPIENTS
Chad Bolander – Northwood
Brian L. Bonnough – Swanton
Cindi (Peters) Britt – Eastwood
Christina McCain – Maumee
Anne (Woyame) Noel – Lake
Terri (Phillips) Rudd – Springfield

2013 RECIPIENTS
Leslie Kay (Radaubach) Hertzfeld – Anthony Wayne
Scott A. Jaegly – Northwood
David Miller – Woodmore
Leonard L. Vidra II – Rossford
Patrick Young – Woodmore

2014 RECIPIENTS
Tracy (Vargo) Buder – Genoa
Robert Hernandez – Woodmore
Jennifer (Traver) Northrup – Woodmore
Douglas Podiak – Maumee
Daniel Soviar – Rossford
John Wenzlick – Otsego
Becky (Dooley) Ziviski – Swanton

2015 RECIPIENTS
David Beckham – Lake
Jayne (Coon) Eisel – Bowling Green
William V. Niedermaier III – Lake
Gary L. Phipps – Swanton
Sandra L. Wiechman – Elmwood
Gregory Wyandt – Anthony Wayne

2016 RECIPIENTS
Joy (Rabbit) DuShane – Lake
Allen Eckel – Springfield
Ron Lenz – Genoa
James Mauter – Maumee
Doug Schmidt – Genoa
Joshua Torres – Anthony Wayne
Molly (Frey) Wilson – Maumee

2017 RECIPIENTS
William Hammer – Woodmore
Kandace (Carpenter) Helbing – Rossford
Karen (Walsh) Magrum – Otsego
Peggy McGaharan – Northwood
Daniel Morey – Bowling Green
Katelyn (Bill) Wright – Otsego
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Springfield
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