

PENTA PERSPECTIVES

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PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

Monday Schedule Offers Work-Based Learning Opportunities

The 2021-2022 school year will be an exciting year for staff and students as Penta Career Center further develops its Work-Based Learning (WBL) objectives. The goal of WBL is to equip students with the necessary foundational skills for work-place entry by connecting them with personalized experiences such as internships, paid lab-related work experiences, and community service activities.

"On most Mondays, our students will be engaged in experiences that will not only benefit them personally, but our hope is that these opportunities can also assist local employers as well as community organizations and local school districts," says Ryan Lee, director of career-technical education. "Through these activities our students will be out in the real-world gaining experience."

Over the years, Penta has built a solid tradition of connecting and applying what students learn in the classroom to the world of work. Now, even more opportunities will be available for them. However, past challenges like transportation and scheduling have prevented some students from gaining this valuable experience.

"With our WBL initiative, we are committed to removing as many barriers as possible, so students have the ability to add these valuable experiences to their resume," adds Lee.

Penta is proud to have built many successful partnerships with area business and industry and hopes to expand those opportunities through its new WBL initiative. Representatives from business and industry are encouraged to work with Penta to further develop opportunities for the students. For additional information, please visit pentacareercenter.org or call 419-666-1120.



Gabrielle Janes (Oak Harbor), from the Welding program, worked at Northern Manufacturing as a welder during the 2020-2021 school year.

Skylar Knitz (Perrysburg), from the Automotive Technology program, worked as an apprentice diesel technician at Nagel Trucking during the 2020-2021 school year.

DECA & SkillsUSA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to Two Teams of Students who Placed First in the Nation through DECA & SkillsUSA Competitions!

In May, **Kolin Atwood** and **Thomas Rigel**, from Penta's Marketing Education program at Bowling Green High School, earned first place at the 2021 DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC). The students competed virtually in the Finance Operations Research contest through presentations and meetings with judges. They qualified for the ICDC by earning second place in the state through the virtual Ohio DECA Career Development Conference. To prepare for the competition, the students received guidance from **Cara Paulette-Maxey**, instructor of Marketing Education. Atwood and Rigel received a glass trophy for their achievement.

A team of four students from the Digital Video Production program earned first place at the virtual 2021 SkillsUSA Championships. **Isaac Ely** (Bowling Green), **Christian Herrig** (Eastwood), **Garrick Patton** (Otsego), and **Lena Funk** (Anthony Wayne) competed virtually against more than a dozen teams from across the nation to earn the top award for the Broadcast News Production contest. The team produced and conducted a mock news broadcast. The contest was videotaped and evaluated by industry judges from SkillsUSA.

(L-R) Isaac Ely, Christian Herrig, Garrick Patton, and Lena Funk



Kolin Atwood and Thomas Rigel

Superintendent's Message



We are excited to begin the 2021-2022 school year at Penta Career Center! Although there are still some challenges related to COVID, we are confident that our ongoing safety precautions will allow students to experience a high-quality career

and technical education.

As many of you are aware, last school year we began working on our goal of growing Work Based Learning (WBL) experiences for students by establishing a four-day model with Mondays set aside for remote learning activities. This year our students will be following a similar model, but they are required to be at school on Mondays unless they are involved in an approved WBL activity such as internships, paid lab-related work experiences, or community service activities.

WBL is a trending initiative that many career-technical schools are implementing across Ohio. It is designed to promote career awareness, career exploration, career preparation, and career training. We are eager to provide more WBL opportunities for students this year, and we look forward to sharing these experiences with you.

Another initiative that Penta and other Northwest Ohio school districts (Toledo Public Schools, Oregon City Schools, Sylvania City Schools, and Washington Local) have been involved with recently is "CTE Connects." The goal of CTE Connects is to educate the community and area employers about the benefits of career-technical education. Not only does CTE Connects raise awareness of the value of Career-Technical Education (CTE) in our region, it also serves as a resource to help business and industry grow its talent pool of skilled workers. We invite you to check out the CTE Connects website to learn more at www.cteconnects.org.

Once again, we are ready for the new school year to begin and look forward to helping students become "Success Ready" in preparation for the next stage of their lives.

Sincerely,
Edward Ewers
Superintendent



STAFF PRESENT VIRTUALLY AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

In July, seven Penta Career Center staff members were chosen as featured presenters for the Making Schools Work national conference sponsored by the Southern Regional Education Board. The presenters were among 130 live and on-demand sessions offered during the week-long virtual conference.

The first presentation, *Work Readiness Reality Check – Getting Students Prepared for Life and Graduation*, was organized and presented by **Amanda Williams**, **Rebecca Knapp** and **Megan Haig**, all special education instructors. Their presentation was pre-recorded at Penta and the instructors were available to answer



questions for conference attendees who joined the virtual event.

Another presentation, *Improving the Quality of CTE Programming Using Data Analytics: A Continuous Improvement Model*, was coordinated by staff members **Christina Kerns**, curriculum supervisor; **Nicole Costello**, instructor of Small Animal Care; **Jeff Miller**, instructor of Heating & Air Conditioning Technology; and **Jennifer Rigali**, instructor of Small Animal Care. The staff presented their topic live at Penta and those in attendance at the conference could join virtually.

HELPING THE COMMUNITY

Penta Hosts Vaccine Clinics

In February and March, Penta Career Center was one of several sites in Wood County for COVID-19 vaccine clinics for school employees from area school districts. The clinics were held on February 19 and March 12. During the first clinic, 850 school personnel received their first dose of the vaccine with extras give to more than 300 community members. Penta was also the site of additional vaccine clinics in the spring sponsored by the Wood County Health Department for any eligible community member. Penta was proud to be able to host these clinics as part of its ongoing assistance to the health department.



Cops & Kids

In the fall of 2020, students in the Criminal Justice program, with the assistance of the Culinary Arts program, organized a fund-raiser to benefit the Wood County F.O.P.'s Cops & Kids program. Students and staff from Culinary Arts prepared Thanksgiving desserts and sold the items to staff and the community. Items for purchase included: rolls, pies and cheesecakes. The items were packaged and delivered in a drive-through pick up for customers near Penta's main entrance. The students raised \$2,500 for Cops & Kids. Members of the F.O.P. used the dollars raised to take needy children in Wood County on a holiday shopping trip to Meijer.



CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2021!

The 56th senior class at Penta Career Center was honored May 18 – 20 during five separate recognition activities in the Susor Auditorium on the Penta campus. Due to the continued restrictions of large indoor gatherings because of the COVID-19 situation, the seniors did not participate in a lengthy ceremony. Instead, the students received their Career Passports individually on stage as parents and family members walked through the auditorium. During the events, members of the Class of 2021 were recognized by Superintendent Edward Ewers, Director Ryan Lee, and members of the Board of Education. Each student also had a professional photo taken with their instructor. This year, 730 seniors from Penta's on campus and satellite programs completed career-technical programs and received Career Passports through Penta.

In addition, 42 seniors were recognized with the 2021 Outstanding Student Award based on performance and excellence in their individual career-technical program. They are:

Brett Birt (Maumee), Construction Carpentry
Egan Bolander (Oak Harbor), Welding
Elliott Bonnough (Otsego), Construction Trades
Gabrielle Bowers (Swanton), Dental Assistant
Karlle Britton (Anthony Wayne), Project SEARCH
Abigail Brown (Otsego), Digital Arts & Design
Jacob Chonko (Swanton), Construction Masonry
Olivia Cook (Woodmore), Cosmetology
Nathan Dauer (Springfield), Advanced Manufacturing Technologies
Sarah Davis (Springfield), Culinary & Hospitality Services
Kiera Dixon (Rossford), Culinary Arts
Justin Duwve (Rossford), Automotive Technology
Walker Evans (Otsego), Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
Isabella Eye (Lake), Automotive Collision Repair
Lena Funk (Anthony Wayne), Digital Video Production

Coinne Gao (Maumee), Small Animal Care
Austin Greene (Lake), Information Technologies Academy
Hailey Guhn (Woodmore), Marketing Education
Jasmine Harkness (Oak Harbor), Horticulture - Floral & Greenhouse Services
Nathan Hart (Bowling Green), Computer-Aided Design
Keaton Heckman (Lake), Construction Electricity
Tanner Hoffman (Lake), Horticulture - Landscape & Outdoor Systems
Khloey Hutton (Otsego), Business Office Technologies
Jeneva Johnson (Oak Harbor), Medical Technologies
Karrah Klinger (Bowling Green), Information Technologies Academy
Skylar Knitz (Perrysburg), Automotive Technology
Jonathan Kutz (Perrysburg), Criminal Justice
Lydia Lanzerotti (Maumee), Heating & Air Conditioning Technology

Abbey Mackay (Eastwood), Firefighter
Lilly Madden (Rossford), Criminal Justice
Andrew McEwen (North Baltimore), Welding
Samantha Mena (Maumee), Early Childhood Education
Madelyn Peterson (Anthony Wayne), Cosmetology
Rylee Ramsey (North Baltimore), Small Animal Care
Karen Skiver (Eastwood), Medical Office Management
Casey Smith (Otsego), Welding
Grace Stanfield (North Baltimore), Medical Technologies Academy
William Tohafian (Rossford), Construction Concepts
Nathaniel Warfel (Northwood), Welding
James Winters (Anthony Wayne), Powersports & Engine Systems
Dustin Young (Springfield), Construction Remodeling
Julia Zieber (Maumee), Medical Technologies Academy

Isabella Eye (Lake), Automotive Collision Repair, proudly displays her Career Passport and Outstanding Student Award after the Senior Recognition Ceremony.

Rob Weaver, instructor of Construction Carpentry, with Brett Birt (Maumee), 2021 Outstanding Student in Construction Carpentry.



Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to **Nicole Costello**, instructor of Small Animal Care, who was recognized in May as the Penta Career Center Teacher of the Year. Costello was nominated by her peers and was selected for her dedication to her students and for her work outside the classroom with key stakeholders like the Toledo Zoo & Aquarium, the Wood County Humane Society, and the Hellbender Partnership. Costello completed her bachelor's degree in Biology in 1999 from The University of Toledo and earned a master's degree in career-technical education in 2015 from The University of Toledo. She has worked at Penta since 2009.



Nicole Costello and her husband, Greg.

Thank You, Retirees!

Congratulations to the following Penta staff members who recently retired. We thank them for their dedication and commitment to our students and to career-technical education.

Dana Delph-Ruffner (30 years at Penta), instructor of Career-Based Intervention
Adrienne Drake (12 years at Penta), assistant to the treasurer, accounts payable
Lori McGill (28 years at Penta), administrative assistant
Mary Chris Rehard (34 years at Penta), school counselor
Robert Rine (30 years at Penta), instructor of Science
Richard Rose (six years at Penta), instructor of Computer-Aided Design
Rose Szczepanski (20 years at Penta), administrative assistant



Penta retirees from 2020 and 2021 who attended the retirement ceremony on May 11 included: Mary Schultz, school counselor (2020 retiree), Richard Rose, Adrienne Drake, Rose Szczepanski, Mary Chris Rehard, and Robert Rine.

Nominate A Penta Alumnus!

Penta Career Center is seeking nominations for the 2021 Outstanding Alumni Awards. Since 1993, Penta has recognized 168 former students with this award. Potential candidates should demonstrate excellence and success in their careers with evidence of professional accomplishments and community involvement.

Nominees must have completed a high school or adult education program at Penta prior to 2011. Applications will be available beginning August 16 by calling 419-661-6360 or by visiting www.pentacareercenter.org (click on "Alumni"). Completed applications are due September 20, 2021. Those alumni selected as 2021 Outstanding Alumni recipients will be honored at a special banquet at Penta on November 11, 2021.

2020 Penta Outstanding Alumni recipients



Christopher Gunderman
(Anthony Wayne),
Class of 1998



Alicia (Gorsuch)
Holdren (Lake),
Class of 2007



Ryan Jones
(Anthony Wayne),
Class of 1998



Chrystal (Moore)
Shanahan (Maumee),
Class of 1998

STUDENTS SHINE AT COMPETITIONS



Jonathan Schramm

Business Professionals of America (BPA)

Jonathan Schramm (Perrysburg), from the Information Technologies Academy, competed in the Cybersecurity/Digital Forensics contest at the virtual BPA National Leadership conference and earned 10th place in the country. Several other students earned top awards at the virtual Ohio BPA conference and also competed virtually at BPA nationals. They included: **Imani Austin** (Springfield) - Health Insurance & Medical Billing; **Corey Channell** (Springfield), **Micah Flack** (Otsego), **Abigail Lee** (Elmwood), and **Lauryn Myrick** (Springfield) - all for Broadcast News Production; **Coira Cook** (Maumee), **Mackenzie Hoot** (Anthony Wayne), and **Victoria Leu** (Genoa) - all for Fundamental Desktop Publishing; **Andrew Maenle** (Rossford) - Linux Operating Systems Fundamentals; and **Zachary Miller** (Genoa) - C++ Programming.

DECA

More than 90 students from Penta's satellite Marketing Education programs earned Top 10 awards at the 2021 Ohio DECA Career Development Conference that was held virtually. Those students who placed first in the state included: **Spencer Borowski** (Anthony Wayne) - Principles of Business Management & Administration; **Heidi Gasser** (Anthony Wayne) - Sports and Entertainment Series; **Sidney Hazard** and **Taylor Snyder** (both from Maumee) - Buying & Merchandising Operations Research; and **Merritt Backus** (Perrysburg) - Principles of Hospitality & Tourism.

FCCLA

Four students earned top awards during the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) National Leadership Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee in June. Although the FCCLA conference was a hybrid event with many students competing virtually, several Penta students attended the conference in person.

Students earning top awards include the following: **Shelby Roe** (Perrysburg), from the Early Childhood Education program, earned third place in

the country for the Teach and Train contest. She received a \$20,000 scholarship to Sullivan University.

Gretchen Germann and **Isabella Riffle** (both from Bowling Green), from the Early Childhood Education program, earned third place in the country for the Promote and Publicize FCCLA contest. They each received a \$20,000 scholarship to Sullivan University. **Allen Zhu**, from the Penta-Anthony Wayne Junior High Family & Consumer Sciences program, placed first in the country for the Promote and Publicize FCCLA contest. The students had previously earned top scores in the Ohio FCCLA competition to qualify for the national event.

Haley Reid, from the Penta-Anthony Wayne High School Family & Consumer Sciences program, was elected as one of 10 members of the 2021-2022 National Executive Council of FCCLA. While attending the conference in Nashville, Haley also learned she was chosen vice president of membership for the FCCLA National Executive Council.

FFA

In April, **Jake Zajkowski** from the Penta-Anthony Wayne FFA chapter was elected as the 2021-2022 Ohio FFA president. Jake will lead a team of 10 officers and serve over 25,000 Ohio FFA members. He will spend the year visiting FFA chapters across Ohio and represent Ohio FFA in the agriculture industry.

Students in Penta's satellite agriculture programs at Anthony Wayne, Bowling Green, Genoa, Oak Harbor, Otsego, and Woodmore earned several recognitions this past school year. Among the chapters, 10 students earned the State FFA Degree

and 13 students earned the American FFA Degree. The Penta-Bowling Green FFA chapter was honored as a Gold-Rated Chapter.



Shelby Roe



Gretchen Germann and Isabella Riffle



Allen Zhu



Haley Reid



HOSA-Future Health Professionals

Students in the Penta's health services programs competed in regional and state HOSA contests this past spring. Several students earned first place awards at the regional event and they included: **Erin Bouk** (Northwood) - Dental Terminology; **Nolan Chuba** (Woodmore) - Life Support Skills; **Alexis Crosby** (Maumee) - Epidemiology; **Rylee Pelland** (Swanton) - Interviewing Skills; **Morgan Prater** (Rossford) - Dental Science; and **Julia Zieber** (Maumee) - Medical Reading. These students along with seven other students also participated in the Ohio HOSA competition.

SkillsUSA

In addition to the students from Digital Video Production who earned first place in the nation at the virtual 2021 SkillsUSA Championships, four students also participated in the national competition by earning first place at the Ohio SkillsUSA Championships. The students, all from the Criminal Justice program, included: **Megan Didion** (Swanton) for the Criminal Justice contest; and, **Natalie Eberly** (Anthony Wayne), **Dustin Guy** (Lake), and **Jonathan Kutz** (Perrysburg) for the Crime Scene Investigation team.



Dustin Guy, Natalie Eberly and Jonathan Kutz



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BENTON-CARROLL-SALEM	NORTHWOOD
BOWLING GREEN	OTSEGO
EASTWOOD	PERRYSBURG
ELMWOOD	ROSSFORD
GENOA	SPRINGFIELD
LAKE	SWANTON
MAUMEE	WOODMORE

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Carrie Herringshaw, Treasurer
Robert Falkenstein, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Ryan Lee, Director of Career-Technical Education

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Perspectives is published by the public information office at Penta Career Center, 9301 Buck Road, Perrysburg, Ohio, 43551. **Perspectives** is free and is available to any resident of the Penta school district. Inquiries should be directed to **Monica K. Dansack**, Public Information Coordinator and **Perspectives** Editor, at 419-666-1120.

Penta Career Center hereby gives notice that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, religion, disability/handicap, citizenship status, or veteran status in its educational programs, activities, employment policies, or admission policies and practices, as required by law. Penta has a section 504, Title VI and Title IX Coordinator.

Perspectives has been honored by:



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2021 Signing Day

Energy and enthusiasm were in the air when hundreds of new students attended Penta's 2021 Signing Day activities on April 27-29. The students visited their career-technical labs to meet their instructors and participated in an official ceremony. During the ceremony, students were introduced on stage with their fellow future classmates and then signed their letters of intent. They received a Penta baseball hat and pen. The new students later took photos with their families and instructors. Signing Day is an activity that began in 2019 for new students that generates excitement about their decision to attend Penta.

IMPORTANT DATES

September 2	Parent Night
September 6	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
September 20	NO SCHOOL – Staff Professional Development Day
September 29	Cruise-In Car Show 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

PENTA PANTRY

Students and staff were once again generous in donating non-perishable food items, toiletries and monies throughout the school year to the Penta Pantry. Due to the pandemic, Penta did not have special events like food drives to assist, however, staff donated items each week to help stock the pantry. In addition, many staff supported the pantry through payroll deduction which allowed the committee to purchase items each week for students who needed assistance. This year the Penta Pantry helped over 27 students and their families weekly. The families were grateful for the assistance. Those wishing to help support the Penta Pantry in the future can contact Elizabeth Wray at ewray@pentacc.org.

2021 ADULT POST-SECONDARY CLASSES

Penta Adult Post-Secondary offers fast, in-demand training in skilled trades along with Aspire/High School Equivalency classes. Full-time programs are available in areas like automotive, construction, HVAC, and welding. Forklift training and welding classes are offered at the Bowling Green site. Penta also partners with business and industry to provide customized workforce development training programs. **For more information, contact Penta Adult Post-Secondary at 419-661-6554 or visit pentacareercenter.org**

