

THINK showcase offers students a modern look at manufacturing

[Daniel Carson](#), Fremont News-Messenger Published 3:37 p.m. ET Sept. 18, 2018

Students learn about local career opportunities



(Photo: File)

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FREMONT - Hundreds of ninth grade students will get a chance to learn about the wide range of jobs available in the area at the fourth annual THINK Manufacturing Showcase.

The showcase for ninth graders is scheduled for Oct. 4 at Terra State Community College.

Andrea Gibson, communications administrator for the Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation, which is hosting the showcase, said this year's showcase will feature for the first time a public open house Oct. 3 from 4:30-6 p.m., where residents can meet with representatives from 15 local manufacturers and take part in hands-on activities.

"I believe most of them will have job applications as well," Gibson said Tuesday.

Reinvigorating the manufacturing industry

Sandusky County's unemployment rate stood at 4.6 percent in July, Gibson said, adding that most manufacturers in the county are currently hiring for new employees.

In Ottawa County, the unemployment rate in July was 5 percent.

In past years, area manufacturers ranging from Crown Battery to Whirlpool have showed off some of their equipment and engaged students in hands-on games and demonstrations during the showcase.

The event was created to bring awareness to manufacturing, change the perception of careers in the skilled trades, and introduce students at an early age to advanced technology.

It was also designed to reduce the shortage of workers entering manufacturing-related professions.

About 850 students attended the 2017 showcase, Gibson said.

What will students learn?

Students will learn the skill sets for teamwork, problem solving/trouble shooting, continuous improvement/lean/quality, manufacturing career pathways, machining trades/blue print reading, mechanical/electrical trades and robotics/automation.

High schools sending students to the showcase include Fremont Ross, St. Joseph Central Catholic, Clyde, Bellevue, Gibsonburg and Lakota.

The showcase will be held inside Terra State's student activities center.

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