



October 15, 2008

REACH begins sixth school year

Submitted story

The REACH career education program, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County and the Chamber Foundation of Sandusky County, recently launched its sixth year.

The objective of the REACH program is to introduce students at the fourth- and/or fifth-grade level to the "world of work," job opportunities at various employers in Sandusky County and the life skills they will need in the workplace, skills that will also serve them well in school and at home.

Consultants from area Business Partners visit the classrooms of participating schools one class period each month and present lessons utilizing a curriculum book developed by the education department at The Ohio State University -- Marion. Lessons include: Exploring the World of Work, Habits and Attitudes That Make Good Workers, Jobs That Match My Talents and Interests, Communication, Teamwork and Interdependence, Equal Opportunity, Technology, and In the Workplace. This latter lesson is a real highlight, as it enables students to visit the Consultant's place of business and see the variety of jobs available there.

With the inclusion this year of all seven elementary schools in the Fremont City Schools District Consultants from 25 different Business Partners are presenting the REACH program to more than 600 students in 29 classrooms in 14 schools. Other schools involved in the program are: Green Springs, So. Main, and Vine Street Schools in the Clyde-Green Springs District, Woodmore School, Lakota East School, Sacred Heart School and Old Fort School.

Business Partners include: American Electric Power, Church & Dwight, Clyde-Findlay Area Credit Union, Croghan Colonial Bank, CVS Pharmacy, Elmwood Assisted Living-Fremont, First Financial Bank, Fremont Federal Credit Union, Heinz N.A., Kelly Services, Luckey Farmers, Inc., Martin-Marietta Magnesia Specialties, Memorial Hospital, Old Fort Banking Co., R&R Identification, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Sandco Industries, St. Francis Health Care Centre, Terra Community College, The Job Store, The UPS Store, Tranzitionz Salon & Spa, Valley View Health Care Center, Whirlpool Corp./Clyde Division and Woodbridge Corp.

Financial Partners that support the REACH program include: American Electric Power, Atlas Industries, Crown Battery Manufacturing Co., Bellevue United Selective Fund, Curwood, Inc., Memorial Hospital and the Sandusky County Human Resource Management Association (SCHRMA), with special support grant funding provided by The United Way of Sandusky County.

For information about the REACH program, contact Jim Miranda at reach@scchamber.org, or 419-332-1591.