



Health Careers Technologies

News about a Career-Technical Education Program from the Six District Educational Compact



Attending the HOSA Fall Leadership Conference at the Greater Columbus Convention Center from left, Isabelle Garrett, Tallmadge; Kylee McCracken, Tallmadge; Erin Malaska, Hudson; Abby Striner, Stow-Munroe Falls; Claudia Surrena, Stow-Munroe Falls; Marissa Mosko, Stow-Munroe Falls; Alex Bentley, Roosevelt; Ke'Asia Lee-Johnson, Roosevelt; and Cherylle Dave, Stow-Munroe Falls.

Attending the HOSA Fall Leadership Conference

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) officers attended the OhioHOSA Fall Leadership workshop in Columbus along with more than 650 other club officers from throughout the state. The theme of the meeting was “the Ripple Effect,” which explained how HOSA members can make a positive difference in their schools and communities. The group heard from keynote speakers and attended workshops.

Career presenters offer insights

Fady Abdllrasul, PharmD, who graduated from Northeast Ohio Medical University’s pharmacy program, talked with Level II student about his career. He decided to become a pharmacist after working as a pharmacy tech. **Paige Lever**, Stow-Munroe Falls, interviewed Fady about his profession at NEOMed’s Pharmacy Boot Camp this fall.

Other career presenters in Level II include a pediatric Occupational Therapy Assistant from Cleveland Clinic Home Care, an adult Occupational Therapist from Cleveland Clinic Akron General, a Speech Language Pathologist from Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest, a Vision Specialist with Kent City Schools, an Emergency Department Registered Nurse, a Dental Hygienist and a Licensed Psychologist.

Learning about NC4K and pediatric cancer



Roosevelt student Ke'Asia Lee-Johnson and NC4K representative Dana Norrod

HCT students made snack bags for NC4K and children on pediatric oncology unit at Nationwide Children's Hospital



Dana Norrod, an NC4K board member, recently spoke to Health Careers Technologies students about pediatric cancer. Nellie’s Champions for Kids (NC4K) supports families living in Ohio, who are dealing with a pediatric cancer diagnosis.

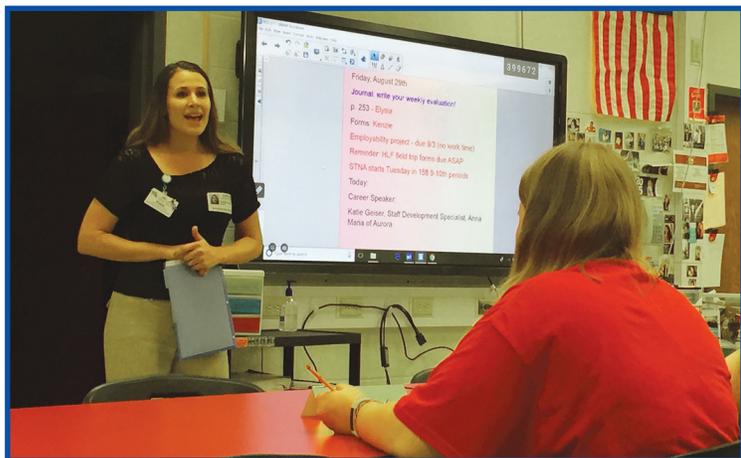
Dana told class members pediatric cancer research receives only 4 percent of the National Cancer Institute budget. She is involved in NC4K, which gives families financial and emotional support. “It’s nice being in a community where everyone has your back,” says Dana.

HCT students were inspired to decorate snack bags for these youngsters with empowering words of encouragement such as, “Stay strong,” “You are amazing!” to “We are here for you” and “Your struggle is my struggle.”

Dana’s message inspired HCT students to raise \$400 at a concession stand at Roosevelt’s Craft Show to donate to NC4K. To learn more, please visit www.NC4K.org.



Meet HCT completers



Katie Ferguson Geiser, 2009 graduate of Roosevelt and HCT completer.

Katie Ferguson Geiser

Katie Ferguson Geiser, a 2009 Roosevelt graduate, spoke about her duties as Staff Development Coordinator and PAC Certified Independent Trainer at Anna Maria of Aurora.

Geiser told the students that after completing HCT, she wanted to become a nurse practitioner in pediatrics. After two years of college, she decided that pathway was not a good fit. "As I explored other options at Kent State University, I found out more about the Public Health degree," she explains. "I graduated from Kent State in 2015 with that degree and a minor in Gerontology."

Because Geiser had worked fulltime during college in the finance field, she was recruited and worked in a financial firm for

the next two years. "In 2017, I finally realized how sick and tired I was sitting behind a desk and not feeling like I was making a difference in people's lives," she says.

She got a job at Anna Maria of Aurora. "Over the past two years, Anna Maria has sent me to get my STNA license, as well as two different dementia certifications. Once I learned more about dementia, I knew I had found my passion," she says. "I developed a strong desire to help educate staff, families and loved ones on how to interact with individuals living with dementia."

Hope Kory

Hope Kory, a 2015 Stow-Munroe Falls completer, is a registered nurse on a general medical neurological unit at Cleveland Clinic Akron General Hospital.

Hope explained the ups and downs of college life and talked about time management to the Level II students. Although nursing school at Kent State University was a lot of work, "it was all worth it, because now I'm living my dream." Hope owns her own home and has no school loans because she worked as a nursing assistant while at KSU.

Kelly Wolcott

Kelly Wolcott, a 2014 Tallmadge graduate, is a paramedic and firefighter who works at Cleveland Clinic Marymount Hospital and for the Hartville Fire Department. She talked about her career and explained that paramedics can work directly with physicians in a hospital emergency department.

Kelly says she has to be mentally and physically strong. "Trust your instincts, speak up when needed and always put the patient first."

Worksite visits show career pathways

Level I learn about health care careers

Level I students made a worksite visit at North Coast Medical Training Academy to learn about post-secondary careers in Massage Therapy, Phlebotomy, Medical Assisting, Veterinary Assisting and Practical Nursing.

Students learned about program requirements and scholarships and met with 2017 HCT completers **Elaina Galloway**, Roosevelt, and **Amber Rhinehart**, Roosevelt, who are seniors in the Veterinary Assisting program.

Other worksite visits include UH Portage Medical Center in Ravenna, Tri-C Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program in Parma and Anna Maria of Aurora.

Level II tour NEOMed anatomy lab

Level II students, along with Anatomy and Medical Terminology Instructor **Angela Textor**, attended an anatomy lab program taught by graduate students and Professor **Dr. Dana Peterson**. Students took part in hands-on lessons structured around the different body systems such as skeletal muscular, neurological and gastrointestinal.

T'ea Glace, Stow-Munroe Falls, says, "I connected what I am learning with the actual cadaver organs and tissues I worked with in the lab."

Level I students learned to give different type of injections at North Coast Medical Training Academy.



Level II interact at Hattie Larlham

Level II students met two 2015 completers and Habilitative Assistants, **Alexis Hose**, Roosevelt, and **Chelcey Bell**, Roosevelt, as part of their tour at Hattie Larlham Center for Children with Disabilities in Mantua. They toured the facility, including the OT/PT therapy room, heated therapy pool, relaxation room, dietary department and transitional ventilator unit.

Students met resident artists called art trackers who work one-on-one with residents to assist them with the creation of paintings, sculptures and music. During lunch, students met with Volunteer Services and Human Resources to discuss opportunities for volunteering and employment after graduation.