



Health Careers Technologies

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



Club Vice President Nadia Anwaar (Stow-Munroe Falls) and Club President Ashlyn Tohr (Tallmadge) attending the HOSA Fall Leadership Conference at NEOMed



Club officers Ky-mani Naseer (Roosevelt), Emily Garfield (Stow-Munroe Falls), Jurnee Smith (Roosevelt) and Sarah Staudt (Stow-Munroe Falls) at the HOSA Fall Leadership Conference at NEOMed

HOSA Fall Leadership Conference

Health Careers Technologies' students are members of the Career-Technical Education student organization, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA). HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the healthcare industry and to enhance the delivery of quality healthcare to all people.

In October, the junior and senior club officers traveled to NEOMed in Rootstown for HOSA's Fall Leadership Conference for Region 2. The theme of the conference was "Ignite Your Passion." Students had the pleasure of listening to the Keynote speaker, **Dr. Abdllrasul Fady**, Pharm.D., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy, who spoke about how his resiliency and passion powered him through very difficult times during his academic career. He also chairs a high school pipeline that networks with high schools to support students interested in health careers. **Chris Crepage** from Northeast Ohio's Life Banc, spoke about organ, eye, and tissue donations. Students heard from a mother who lost her son who shared her experience of saving/improving the lives of multiple people through his organ donation.

The officers also met with HOSA State Secondary and Postsecondary officers where they collaborated to put together academic goals and plans for the school year.

Student shadowing experience

Sarah Staudt, Level II senior from Stow-Munroe Falls, recently had the opportunity to shadow **Emily Pataki**, a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) at Summa in Akron. Emily received her BSN from The University of Toledo prior to receiving her Master of Science from The University of Akron and becoming board certified to administer anesthesia. Sarah shadowed Emily for the morning and was able to observe a patient receiving a laparoscopy. While in the operating room, Sarah was in the presence of a gynecologist, a surgical resident, an anesthesiologist, a surgical technician, a circulating nurse, and a CRNA and was able to view the procedure on a big screen.

Sarah found that it was interesting that CRNAs can truly work in any area, whether it be electrophysiology or obstetrics, where Emily spends a lot of her time, or other specializations such as orthopedics, cardiac care, or diagnostics. Sarah says, "Emily and the two other CRNAs I encountered (during the shadowing experience) were all super energetic and love their jobs. Her job fascinates me and I loved learning about it!"

Students volunteer at Hattie Larlham

This fall, the junior and senior HOSA officers traveled to Hattie Larlham Center for Children with Disabilities in Mantua, Ohio. The group aided in cleaning up the integrated playground and outside park area, where the residents can spend time enjoying the outdoors with their families, siblings and care-givers. After a few hours of mulching, trimming trees, and putting down tarps, students were able to meet with a few of the residents and their Direct Support Personnel (DSPs) from the Center. Students spoke with the DSPs about their positive experiences working with the individuals living at Hattie Larlham. Students heard about the various events that are hosted for the residents, including trick-or-treating and Prom. HCT students look forward to organizing a prom dress collection for the residents to provide them with dress options for this exciting night! The Human Resources department also shared with students the high school employment opportunity of becoming a Direct Care Aide.

Students place at 2020-21 Ohio HOSA Virtual Regional Competition



Seniors Jurnee Smith (Roosevelt), Zaleah Wright (Roosevelt), Ky-mani Naseer (Roosevelt) and Ava Alexander (Cuyahoga Falls) were awarded the Regional Blue Ribbon for their Medical Debate HOSA project



Senior Tana Zager (Cuyahoga Falls) with her winning blue ribbon for her HOSA Regional project - Research Poster





**Instructor
Catie Milton, RN
demonstrating
hemoglobin (Hgb)
testing with
Level II students**



**Level II Stow-Munroe
Falls seniors Emily
Garfield and Sarah
Staudt checking
cholesterol levels in lab**

Level II students study phlebotomy

The HCT Level II students recently finished up their Phlebotomy unit in the lab. Students studied and learned about common blood tests such as the CBC (Complete Blood Count), blood type and cross matching tests, blood chemistry, and serology testing. Students participated in hands-on activities where they were instructed on how to perform a capillary finger stick and then practiced the skill on one another to conduct specific tests such as cholesterol screening, blood glucose, hemoglobin and hematocrit testing. Students made blood smears or films and were able to view their blood on slides under a microscope in order to determine the types of white blood cells and identify the red blood cells. Students also studied venipunctures and were able to apply what they learned by practicing on synthetic hands and a dog paw.



HOSA Be The Match Service Project

Every two years at the HOSA Internationals, the State delegates vote on an International service organization to support. This year's organization is *Be The Match*, which runs the largest bone marrow registry in the United States and also sponsors research about blood disease, patient education and financial support for patients and their families. The HCT HOSA chapter will support this service organization by raising awareness of the Bone Marrow Registry, and by raising funds at the November Roosevelt craft show. Additionally, a group of students has created a PSA to increase awareness of the need for Black and mixed-race individuals to join the registry, because unlike blood donation, bone marrow donation is specific to ethnicities, and there is a wide gap between the number of White and minority individuals represented on the registry. The registry is targeting people ages 18-40 to sign up, so students are networking with a Black sorority at The University of Akron. Students are sharing their time, talent and passions to make this service project a success.

Guest speakers provide valuable insights to students

Throughout the two-year HCT program, career speakers come into the classroom to share their knowledge of their profession and give students tips on pursuing different healthcare careers.

Some of the speakers are former completers of the program, such as **Jessica Clark**, LPN ('15 Roosevelt) who explained to the students about her journey from STNA to becoming an LPN. Jessica explained how working at a long-term care facility during Covid changed her nursing practice, and led her to working as an Agency Nurse. Jessica talked to the students about starting a bridge program at Kent Stark State to obtain her RN licensure and her goal of becoming an Advanced Practice Nurse.

Another career speaker was **Kathryn Milton**, Nurse Tech ('19 Roosevelt). Kathryn works as a Nurse Tech in the Medical Surgical Float Pool at Summa Akron City while studying Nursing at Walsh University. Kathryn spoke to the students about balancing work and college, and gave pointers about organization and study skills that can help make students successful in nursing school. As a third year student at Walsh, she explained the coursework she has taken, such as Anatomy, Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, and Chemistry and discussed her clinical rotations.



**Career guest speaker
and Nurse Tech Kathryn
Milton ('19 Roosevelt)**

Kelly Wolcott, EMT-P and Fire Fighter, ('15 Roosevelt), currently works in the emergency department at the Cleveland Clinic Akron General and for the Osnaburg Township Fire/EMS and spoke with students about her career path which started in HCT.

Kayla Rader, RN ('12 Cuyahoga Falls) works in the emergency department at Aultman Hospital and shared her experiences as an emergency room nurse with students.

In addition to the successful completers who have come to speak to the HCT classes this year, the program has welcomed several professionals from The University of Akron.

Benjamin Rochester, the academic adviser for The College of Health and Human Sciences, took HCT students through a detailed presentation of courses that can be taken at the School of Disaster Sciences and Emergency Services. The program works with the Cleveland Clinic and Summa to bring courses such as a four-month EMT course that is held twice a year and a ten-month EMT/Paramedic course. They also have programs such as Fire Protection Technologies, a training center for fire and hazardous metals, and emergency management and homeland security.

Dennis Ragins who is a Firefighter, EMT, Paramedic and Lead Faculty of the School of Disaster Sciences at the University of Akron, shared his passion for helping people and how his career has helped him to do so. HCT completer, **Gwen Sterrett** ('21 Roosevelt) is currently in the Fire Protection Program at UA, combining her dream of rescuing animals with her passion for becoming a firefighter.

HCT values their supporters and greatly appreciates them sharing their expertise and knowledge with the students.

