

WINTER NEWSLETTER ♦ February 2021

From the Director

Hello Parents, Friends and Community Members:

I want to begin by saying Happy 2021! This school year has been challenging to everyone. Your patience, flexibility and understanding has been greatly appreciated by the staff at Greene County Career Center. However, I want to make sure I note how impressed we are by the resilience of our students. They have managed to navigate the various instructional delivery models as they have changed and morphed. Despite the challenges of 2020, students at Greene County Career Center display drive and determination to find success both academically and within their career technical programs. Parents and guardians have been understanding as they receive numerous e-mails, One Calls and letters sent by GCCC to keep them posted on changes as they occur. We have identified new methods of communication not utilized prior to COVID-19 that enhance parent and teacher conversations for the benefit of students. Despite restrictions, quarantines and guidelines, the GCCC family is stronger than ever. We thank you for your contribution.

The McKinney-Vento Act's Education for Homeless Children and Youth program and Title I, Part A provides students experiencing homelessness with protections and services to ensure they can enroll in and attend school, complete their high school education, and continue on to higher education. I am the designated Title IX Homeless liaison for Greene County Career Center as well as the point of contact for students in foster care as called for in the "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA). Please contact me for reporting needs or questions and concerns.

We look forward to continued partnership in the education of your student throughout the remainder of the school year!

Dr. Pamela Downing
Director of Secondary Education

Important Dates

February 11 - Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 15 - No School, Presidents' Day
March 19 - End of Third Grading Period
March 26 - Report Cards Mailed
March 29 - April 2 – Spring Break, No School
April 5 - Classes Resume
April 12 - April 30 - End of Course Testing
May 25 - Last Day for Seniors
May 25 - Senior Recognition Ceremony, WSU Nutter Center, 7:00 p.m.
May 27 – Last Day for Juniors

Career Center Applications for 2021-2022

We are accepting applications for incoming juniors and seniors. To access the application, please go to our website at www.greeneccc.com. Click on "High School Admissions – Apply Here" and follow the instructions. Contact Janet Baughn, extension 2320 or jbaughn@greeneccc.com, should you have any questions.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences are scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2021 from 3:45-7:30 p.m. Go to our website at www.greeneccc.com to find the link for parent teacher conference registration. Conferences may be scheduled in 15-minute increments with each teacher. Please communicate with the teacher if you prefer a virtual conference or a face-to-face conference. This year, we are encouraging virtual conferences for safety purposes. If you have questions, contact Ashley Ewing, extension 1303, or by email at aewing@greeneccc.com.

Senior Information

The GCCC Senior Recognition Ceremony will be held at Wright State University's Ervin J. Nutter Center at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 (students be there at 6:00 p.m.). The last day of school for seniors is May 25th. Senior information packets will be distributed to seniors in April. Seniors who have not ordered a cap & gown or graduation announcements may contact Pam Pickle, extension 2301 for more information. All school fees are to be paid by April 16, 2021.

Senior Requirements

Community Service hours (15 total) must be turned in by May 1, and is part of the requirements to receive a Certificate of Completion. Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal is a way students can earn recognition, displaying they are prepared to contribute to the workplace and their communities. This seal is printed directly onto a student's diploma. Lab Instructors will be assigning "grades" for employability skills. These grades will not be calculated into a student's classroom average, they are being used to track requirements for the graduation seal. Professional skills include: reliability, work ethic, punctuality, discipline, teamwork, professionalism, learning agility, problem-solving, leadership, creativity, oral/written communication, digital technology, global fluency, and career management. To learn more about the Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal, please visit the Ohio Department of Education website or contact your student's lab instructor for more information.

Scholarships

Parents and seniors are encouraged to view the list of available scholarships on our website at www.greeneccc.com. Click on "Parents/Students - Academic Services and Information - Scholarship and Assessment Information" to view local, state and national scholarships. If you have any questions, please contact Brandon Prather, extension 2310, or by email at bprather@greeneccc.com.

The Greene County Vocational SD has dedicated itself to providing equal admission opportunities, equal educational opportunities, and equal employment opportunities to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or disability and is in compliance with Title VI, IX and section 504 regulations.

Communication

Student daily announcements are read each morning and added to Schoology for student access. This provides many avenues to update students regarding partner school events. Stay well-informed of your student's grades through ProgressBook which may be accessed through the Parent Access link on our website as well as the Schoology portal.

ACT Testing

Classes graduating 2018 and beyond are required to participate in the ACT College Testing. Ohio Department of Education will pay for juniors to take the test one time.

Juniors not receiving approved accommodations through ACT will test on March 9, 2021. Juniors that will be taking the ACT at Greene County Career Center with approved accommodations through ACT will be testing February 23 – March 5, 2021. Seniors can register for the ACT test on their own and will not be testing with the juniors on the dates above. Seniors wishing to take the ACT should visit ACT's website, www.act.org to register for testing. Seniors enrolled in free or reduced lunch qualify for an ACT Fee Waiver.

Vacation Request Form Requirements

Greene County Career Center strongly urges that vacations be scheduled outside of school days due to loss of valuable instruction time. However, a student may be excused up to (5) school days with approved Vacation Request Form documentation, located in the Attendance Office. Reminder that students are to follow GCCC calendar, not the district calendar in which you reside.

Work Based Learning (WBL)

Opportunities for GCCC seniors are available. WBL experiences are conducted at a work site during or after school to provide authentic learning experiences that link academic, technical, and professional skills. We currently have well over 60 students that attend their academic classes and then leave to participate in work-based learning in a career field connected to their lab. To learn more about eligibility criteria, contact Jim DeLange, extension 2308, or by email at jdela@greeneccc.com.

Uniform and Professional Dress

Greene County Career Center Uniform and Professional Dress Code policy is in effect for all programs. GCCC uniforms are to be worn at all times except on spirit days or other special events that are scheduled and announced by administration.

Community Service Experience

Seniors have a mandatory Community Service Experience Program of 15-hours that they must complete by May 1, 2021 in order to receive their GCCC Career Passport. Parents and seniors are encouraged to view the Community Service Experience form posted to the GCCC website.

Visitors

As an added security measure, all visitors must present a valid state ID upon entering the building. Due to COVID-19, please expect to have your temperature taken in the front office. All visitors are required to wear a mask while in the building until further notice. Thank you for your understanding.

Drug Prevention

The Board of Education recognizes that the misuse of drugs is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the whole school community. The Board prohibits the use, possession, concealment, sale, purchase, distribution of any drug or any drug-related paraphernalia as well as the solicitation or facilitation or participation in their use as the term is defined by law, on school grounds, in school vehicles, and at any school-sponsored events. A drug-free zone has been established within 1000 feet of any facility used by the District for educational purposes

District Bullying Policy

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all its students. Aggressive behavior toward a student by staff, other students or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. These behaviors include but are not limited to stalking, bullying, cyberbullying, sexting, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing. Reports can be made on GCCC website under "Stay Safe, Speak Up".

Be Respectful, Be Impactful and Show Self-Control

GCCC implements a PBIS framework to improve the school culture, implementing a multi-tiered approach to social, emotional and behavior support. The underlying theme is teaching behavioral expectations in the same manner as any core curriculum subject. GCCC focuses on behavioral expectations that are positively stated and easy to remember. In other words, rather than telling students what not to do, the school will focus on the preferred behaviors. A copy of the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports and Limited Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy (see Policy 5630.01) can be found on GCCC website.

Emergency Plan

The safety of Greene County Career Center students and staff is our top priority. School Board policy 8400 states: *To that end, the Superintendent shall develop and adopt a comprehensive Emergency Management Plan ("EMP") for each building under his/her control.* The Emergency Management Plan for Greene County Career Center is regularly updated and submitted to the Ohio Department of Education each year. The EMP involves law enforcement, fire, emergency medical personnel and any local divisions having county-wide emergency management and staff. Greene County Career Center is fully compliant with policy 8400 and conducts drills and tests regularly to ensure a high level of preparedness

Remote Learning Update

This semester is different in that our academic teachers are teaching students in person so they cannot also lead courses online. This change required GCCC to use the content provider Edmentum. Students in college level courses (CCP, AP, etc.) are required to login to their courses everyday with new tracking video cameras we purchased for these classrooms. To help support the students learning remotely we have aligned office hours throughout the day for certain staff members to answer student questions and moderate the program. During the first few days of the semester, all remote students attended an orientation and we have provided a summary on our webpage under the heading "Remote Learning". At this point, all students are enrolled in their courses. We appreciate the grace and flexibility as we embark on this new journey.