



City, DPS, trades, manufacturers promote post-high school apprenticeships

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The City of Dayton, Dayton Public Schools, local labor unions and manufacturers are collaborating to promote apprenticeship and career opportunities involving the skilled trades and manufacturing to 9th grade educators in Dayton.

The participating organizations held an apprenticeship information day on August 9 at the IBEW Local 82 conference center. The goal of the event was to equip 9th grade educators in Dayton Public Schools with information to help guide interested students into careers in construction and manufacturing. Evidence shows that 9th grade is a critical year for students in shaping their long-term success in education and careers.

"We're focused on partnering with teachers who are interested in identifying possible future journeymen/women and providing these educators the tools needed to prepare students for a successful career in the building trades," said A. Eugene Frazier II, regional apprenticeship training director with the Sheet Metal Workers Local 24 Dayton Area.

Apprentices earn wage and benefits for hours spent training on the job, and typically receive college credits for in classroom instruction. In three to five years, depending on program requirements, the graduate receives a nationally recognized journeyman card.

Earlier this year, Mayor Whaley and Commissioner Christopher Shaw organized a Workforce Pipeline Committee to collaborate and highlight job opportunities.

"Dayton Public Schools has worked closely in partnering in this effort and this information day is just the first step in highlighting these opportunities to educators" Commissioner Shaw said. "We're excited to engage the different players so we can continue to build readiness for the great jobs that are and will be available in our community."

In addition to apprenticeship information day, the Workforce Pipeline Committee has worked to better coordinate regional apprenticeship recruitment efforts and more effectively connect people already working in related areas with each other.

Dayton Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Lolli said the district is excited to be a part of the workforce development project.

"The opportunity for students to be exposed to a variety of career options during and after high school is a necessity today. With help from the City of Dayton, Mayor Whaley, Commissioner Shaw and various representatives from unions and other DPS partners, apprenticeship information day helps teachers learn about opportunities available for students. With this new information about current workforce needs and requirements, DPS teachers can offer students ideas and suggestions for potential career choices."

"We know how important partnerships are in making sure our city thrives," said Mayor Nan Whaley. "That's why I am so pleased that Dayton Public Schools, organized labor, and the City of Dayton are working together to highlight in-demand career pathways for our young people."

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