



July 16, 2019

For Immediate Release

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Fairfield County Wraps Up Engineering Technology Camp with Senator Sherrod Brown Visit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lancaster, OH- Last week the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance wrapped up its Engineering and Technology Summer Camp with a visit from U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and graduation and presentations from the students. The Fairfield County Engineering Technology Camp Classes of 2019 showcased their week-long projects that focused on plastics.

“This kind of camp introduces kids to working with their brains and with their hands, and they are learning from companies that get to make these sorts of things right in their own back yard,” said Senator Brown, who hosts 36 manufacturing camps across Ohio. “By starting young these kids are discovering that people can go to a career center, they can go to a tech school, they can be a union apprentice, carpenter, electrician, and they will find these good-paying jobs that have good benefits.”

There were 35 eighth and ninth grade students who attending one of the two different week-long classes at Ohio University Lancaster’s engineering-technology lab. They dove into the realm of plastics and toured local manufacturing companies Midwest Fabricating, Company Wrench, Worthington Industries, Blue Label Digital, and niFco.

“This was a great opportunity to show students what local business’ have to offer in the way of technology and careers,” said Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic Development Director. “Watching students create plastic products in the lab and seeing their excitement in engineering shows how great of a job our schools are doing in their STEM programs and gives me hope for our future workforce.”

“There are so many rewarding career paths in manufacturing,” said Gina Orr, Instructor at Ohio University Lancaster’s Engineering Technology Lab. “I’m hoping that this week gave these students a glimpse at the variety of options in the industry and that the paths are endless. Some kids in the county may not be able to afford college or take on college debt. The manufacturing industry is a great alternative for students who want to pursue a career without the burden of student loans.”

The 2019 Engineering and Technology camp is organized by the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance and sponsored by Ohio University Lancaster, Lancaster City Schools, the Fairfield County Commissioners, and South Central Power. The camp was free for students thanks to these contributions

The Engineering Technology Summer Camp is open to any student who will be enrolled in eighth or ninth grade at a Fairfield County school or are home school and is interested in STEM academics. Please visit <http://www.fairfield33.com/> in the future for updated information on the 2020 camp.

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