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## Information Night for Incoming High School Seniors Planned at Fairfield County Workforce Center

[Carroll, OH:] The Fairfield County Workforce Center will host an Information Night for incoming high school seniors attending school in Fairfield County, and their parents/guardians, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., August 20<sup>th</sup> at the Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll, OH 43112. A virtual attendance option is available by visiting meet.google.com/bpb-fxin-uxh.

Students will have a chance to connect with faculty and staff and explore the career training opportunities offered at the Workforce Center for the 2024-2025 school year. Senior students will learn about programs in construction, healthcare, and manufacturing that will provide them with a career pathway upon graduation of high school. All Fairfield County school districts are partnering with the Workforce Center on these programs, which are provided by Hocking College and Ohio University Lancaster.

Students can participate in pre-apprenticeships in electric, HVAC, water/wastewater management, and carpentry. They can also earn certificates in industrial arts (manufacturing) and phlebotomy. These pre-apprenticeships and certificates can help students meet the requirements for graduation. Some programs will give students the opportunity to take classes as well as earn money by working at one of the Fairfield 33 Alliance's partner businesses.

These programs provide students a last chance to develop skills in an industry before they graduate high school. They will receive hands-on experience with in-demand trades, allowing them to make informed decisions about their futures. Through the Fairfield 33 Alliance's Career Readiness Program, they can earn an endorsement that proves they are ready to embark on a career. The goal is to help students enter the workforce while helping businesses fill the gap on in-demand jobs locally.

"Many high school students don't realize the career opportunities available to them directly after graduation," said Karie Stone, Fairfield County Career Navigator. "Graduates from our programs are finding jobs with good wages that provide career growth. We prepare these students with the essential skills needed for these careers. We welcome the opportunity to discuss these possibilities with incoming seniors and their families."

"Our program for incoming seniors continues to gain recognition around the state, it is becoming more apparent than ever that creating the opportunity for students to interact with local businesses while still completing their education provides them with a vision for their futures," said Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development Director.

For more information about the Information Night, students may speak with their school counselor or contact the Workforce Center by calling 740.652.7060 or email Jennifer.Sturgeon@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov.

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