

The beginning of the Year 2000 brought many physical and organizational changes to the Career Center. Health programs were clustered as the Health Technology Academy and a new program began which met at Wooster High School, Fitness Training and Sports Medicine. An Engineering Academy began which combined Drafting, Engineering, Precision Machining and Welding.

Building renovations for the Health Academy included a health library, combined teacher workroom and new staff offices, a new medical assisting lab with phlebotomy capabilities, and the addition of a chemistry and computer lab. In the practical nursing lab there were new hospital beds, an acute care area with computerized charting and an EKG machine, a home health care area, and a nurses' station.

In the Engineering and Manufacturing Technology Academy, Amatrol equipment valued at \$85,000 was purchased to train students in hydraulics, pneumatics, electrical, and plastics. The computer lab was upgraded to include software such as AutoCAD 2000, Microsoft Office, and Mechanical Desktop. A new plotter, which makes large drawings for drafting, was purchased.

PreNursing was offered to high school students for the first time. The drafting lab was moved and renovated to include more Computer Aided Drafting, and engineering technologies, with industrial trainers for hydraulics, pneumatics, plastics, robotics and electrical.

The Business Academy added two new programs, Health Information Technology and Interactive Media. The Meat, Bakery and Food Science program was closed.

The Learning Resource Center (LRC) was expanded and became the Technology Resource Center.

2001

Pre-Nursing opened as a one-year program for seniors. Students will test to become State Tested Nurse Aides (STNA). Auto Technology and Auto Body combined to become Auto Technologies. Fitness Training and Sports Medicine changed into Exercise Science and Sports Medicine.

The Career Center installed a new telephone system, and the welding and precision machining labs underwent major renovations.

Adult & Community Education took a new turn as the Career Center entered an agreement with Hamrick Truck Driving School for adult classes. It also added a Cisco academy for adults, providing online training, classroom lectures and hands-on laboratory work in computer networking.

The WCJVS School Board adopted a new tag line, "providing a first-class education for first-class students" to go with their new logo.

The Wayne County Schools Career Center developed the Virtual Learning Academy, an Internet-based program for both high school and adult students. Students could take academic courses on the Internet at their own schedule for high school credit, and adults could choose from more than 500 computer training and technical job skills courses to take at home, on their own schedule, at their own pace.

2002

The Culinary Arts program moved to the former Meat, Bakery and Food Science building, which was remodeled and named their new restaurant "The Old School House Restaurant." Occupational Work Experience (OWE) was changed to Career-Based Intervention. Auto Technologies was divided back into Auto Mechanics and Auto Collision Repair. The Engineering Academy was disbanded, and the three programs reverted back to individual programs.

The Student Assistance Center was expanded to meet the specific needs of students in special education.

Adult Basic and Literacy Education, Even Start, and some computer training programs moved to the Gault Family Learning Center at the old Beall Avenue Elementary School in Wooster.

Because of high enrollment, the Career Center renovated the cosmetology lab, making two labs from one

The Technology Resource Center (library) was automated, paid for by a state Library Services and Technology Act grant. Students were able to check out the almost 4,000 items in the center by scanning their patron barcode on their photo identification card. The old card catalog was replaced by the InfoOhio online computer catalog, which was available at the school on two computer stations and also online from the InfoOhio website. Another computer for staff use, a barcode scanner and a printer were also provided by the grant. The program

kept track of fines as well, and eliminated much of the paperwork and handwork by library staff.

2003

The Wayne County Schools Career Center celebrated its 35th year of operation by having a float in the Wayne County parade in July, and a celebration at the school on Sept. 17. A time capsule with items from the 1960s and on was encased at the front of the building by our maintenance staff. Bob Markley, welding instructor, and Mary Miller, secretary to the Associate Superintendent, were honored as the longest tenure staff members.

Building updates included a new playground, computer stations, counters and storage in the Early Childhood Education and Care lab, a new computer-programmed plasma cutter in the welding lab which cuts intricate designs from metal, new flat-screen monitors and new computers in the Drafting/Engineering Technology lab. The Auto Mechanics and Truck labs were renovated as well.

The Student Assistance Center was moved into the former culinary arts restaurant area, which doubled their space and increased their capacity to 30 students at a time. The new SAC included a conference room. The school won a Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors award in December for its renovations.

The WCJVS board increased to 15, with the addition of a board member from each Wayne County public school district.

The Wayne Adult School of Practical Nursing added a part-time evening program. This allowed the Wayne School of Practical Nursing to teach 88 more student nurses each year.

The staff voted to raise student achievement by becoming a High Schools That Work site. They explored the concept during the 2002-03 school year, then spent a year in the planning stage, from 2003-04. Staff visited other HSTW sites and attended regional, state and national conferences. The school concentrated on one of 10 key practices, teachers working together, including cross-curricular projects for students, and will look at extra help for students in the following year.

The school added a student placement liaison, Kathie Kister, who coordinated all student job placements within the school. Part-time programs increased enrollment. Students in some programs can now

take their academics at their home schools, and their career/technical training at the Career Center.

Adult & Community Education purchased new computers with flat screens for the Gault Family Learning Center in Wooster, and some as well for the Career Center classrooms.

2004

Agricultural & Industrial Mechanics became a College Tech Prep program, and was renamed Ag Mechanics/Power Technology. Drafting/Engineering Technology became Engineering Technologies. The Business and Health Academies were disbanded, making the programs stand alone once again. Business programs were named Operating a Business and Medical Office Management.

The high school welcomed more than 950 new students, a dramatic increase in enrollment. This is the first time since the early 1980s that the school has had more than 900 students at the beginning of the year.

The Technical Resource Center was expanded again to include two complete computer labs.

New classes began for Phlebotomy, State Tested Nurse Aide, and Medical Office Technologies were offered in Adult & Community Education.

Dr. John "Kip" Crain became Superintendent of the WCSCC, following the retirement of Michael Lezak. His hiring followed months of research and focus group meetings with staff, administrators, Wayne County superintendents and board members, coordinated by the Tri-County Educational Service Center superintendent Ed Swartz.

In December, after an ice and snowstorm, the roof of the Telecommunications and Career Based Intervention building caved in, and the building was demolished. A new building was later built to house four technology programs.

2005

The Career Center began an August Student Orientation Day complete with outdoor picnic. In October, the Career Center hosted a Health Fair during Parent/Teacher conferences. Open House in January was revamped to include inviting 8th, 9th and 10th graders and their

families, as well as the public. Our visitors jumped from about 100 to almost 1,000 that year.

The school developed a new red, white and blue star logo, and started a new website, with assistance from Tri-County Computer Services in Wooster and our students in Interactive Media. We also built a new digital sign, with funds donated by Pepsi Company. We upgraded many of our brochures, and developed an expanded Annual Report. Career and Technical programs were divided into eight clusters: Business, Construction, Education, Health, Manufacturing/Engineering, Mechanics, Public Service, and Technology.

The Wayne County Schools Career Center bridge team worked with area colleges and universities to develop credit banking or other perks to students who wanted to continue their education at college.

We offered our first-ever satellite program, Career Paths for the Teaching Professions, which met part time at The University of Akron Wayne College. Key Club, sponsored by the Kiwanis, was added to student organizations.

Building renovations included the Horticulture lab, and begin plans for a new Technology Center. The school sold the Mobile Technology Lab, and purchased a new school bus.

2006

New programs in 2006-07 were Animal Care and Management, Buildings and Grounds, and Food Service was changed to Hospitality. Telecommunications became Telecommunications/Power Technology, and Building Specialties became Construction Technologies. New labs were created for the Animal Care and Buildings and Grounds programs. The Welding and Practical Nursing labs received major facelifts.

A new 15,249-square-foot Technology Center was built to house four programs: Telecommunications/Power Transmission, Computer Networking, Interactive Media and Electronics and Computer Technology. Open house for the new building was November 2, 2006.

A new telephone system was installed throughout the building, necessitating a change in phone numbers and extensions.

The front office was completely renovated during the summer, and some programs moved temporarily until the new Technology Center was completed.

The school added an Academic Assistance Area to help students with schoolwork. Its goal is to provide extra help for students who need to learn their academic material and pass their courses.

The school received an Outstanding Extra Help Program award from High Schools That Work.

2007

The Guidance offices and Printing Technology labs were renovated.

The Wayne County Schools Career Center held its first Community Appreciation Day on September 22. There was a car show, kiddie carnival, kiddie tractor pull, mum sale, nail services, health fair, alumni reunion, pet grooming, and free food compliments of a local industry.

The WCJVS was back on the ballot for new money for the first time since 1987, for a 0.75 mill permanent improvement levy, which passed on the first try. Levy co-chairs were Jenni Reusser of the Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce, and Don Noble of Wooster.

2008

Mark Perna of Tools for Schools joined our team as marketing consultant, so many marketing items were updated and more enrollment and retention projects were done. Sophomore Visitations was moved to November, with Open House in early December. Banners were made for all high school programs, and three to promote Adult & Community Education.

Programs changing names were Horticulture, to Landscape and Plant Technologies and Auto Mechanics became Auto Technologies. Career Paths for the Teaching Professions was shortened to Teaching Professions.

WCSCC chose its first Ambassadors from the high school student body. Ambassadors assisted with presentations at the home high schools, eighth grades, building tours, Open House, Parent-Teacher Conferences and other school events. These students are the best of the best, and represent our school well.

2009

On April 30, 2009, a Groundbreaking ceremony was held at the WCSCC for the construction of a new 7,600 square foot Adult Education building. This building will serve as Swing Space for academics and career-technical labs while the main building is being renovated. Asbestos removal was done in the summer, as well as new bus and delivery driveways, bus loop, visitor parking in the front circle, staff and restaurant parking on the west side, sidewalks, exterior lighting, construction of storm water control-retention ponds, and utility upgrades throughout the building.

Demolition began in F-wing in mid-September, and the renovation of F-wing will begin in November, to be completed by spring break. Demolition of the courtyard will begin in March, and B-wing renovation will begin in April. The center core renovation will start in May.