

Nearly 100 at ACHS stepping up to be career ready

Seniors showing enthusiasm for program: 'Every senior we have spoken with has been willing to do whatever it takes to gain the most out of their high school career and be as prepared as they can for college and careers after high school.' - Assistant Principal Travis Gay

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From the Adair County School District

Nearly 100 ACHS students are "stepping up" to new challenges. The students have been working with counselors to change their schedules in an effort to become college and career ready. In several of these situations it has required seniors to take a more difficult class or add an additional class that will get them "career ready".

School Counselors Ann Young and Leslie Melton, along with Asst. Principal Travis Gay have been helping students understand how this change will help make them more competitive for jobs after graduation, simply by adjusting their schedules. Career path teacher Ms. Loretta Rainwater has also helped meet with students - often one-on-one.

Seniors Tessa Pyles and Rachel Stephens have already proven themselves to be college ready by reaching benchmark on the ACT. They were excited to learn they could add Career Ready status to their resumes if they were willing to take on these additional responsibilities for the remainder of their senior year. When asked what impact this change will make for her personally, Stephens said, "We're trying to better ourselves so that we have more opportunities in the future. This will help better our school for upcoming students too."

"We are extremely proud and excited about the way our seniors have stepped up and welcomed the challenge of becoming college and career ready," said Gay "We have met with a large group of seniors at this point and intend to meet with all of them. Every senior we have spoken with has been willing to do whatever it takes to gain the most out of their high school career and be as prepared as they can for college and careers after high school."

Superintendent Alan Reed said, "With the new focus on all students being Career Ready, I think it's fantastic that Adair County High School students are willing to take on tougher classes for their senior year."

Phyllis Curry, the Supervisor of Instruction for Adair County Schools, echoed Reed's comment, "We are all thrilled that students will be better off after graduation, whether it's college or career. It's expensive and counter-productive when students have to take remedial coursework in college or lack critical skills for the workforce."

"ACHS has come alive," said Reed. "We can't wait to be able to offer students even more preparation for good jobs when our new satellite technical facility is built. We're going to turn out students ready to go into jobs with industry certifications in Health Careers and in welding and metal fabrication."

"I want to thank our students, faculty, staff, and the leadership at ACHS for all pulling

together. Get ready for bigger and better things to come from Adair County High School." - *News from Adair County School District*

This story was posted on 2013-11-13 12:19:00