



**JOHN R. KASICH**  
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**Communication Department**

## **Marietta City Schools**

**Superintendent: Will Hampton**

**Director of Career Resources and Outreach: Tasha Werry**

**Student: Scott Schofield**

**Award:** Marietta City Schools has successfully developed multiple ways to increase personal career experiences for students.

### **Award Background:**

#### **Elementary School District:**

Students begin in elementary school with the (MC) Science Collaborative program. The focus of this program is science, and students in all grades experience science through the lens of Marietta College science professors. The culminating experience of this program is Meet a Scientist Day, which has the fifth grade class touring Marietta College and learning about the career pathways of multiple professors. Schools also coordinate career awareness events with their Partners in Education.

#### **Middle School District:**

Marietta Middle School begins to take students beyond career awareness and into career development. Sixth grade students complete a career exploration and research unit, and seventh and eighth grade students take a Career Connections course in two parts. This course has them complete interest inventories, explore various careers, discuss educational pathways available at the high school, interact with guest speakers, and create accounts in the Ohio Means Jobs K-12 Backpack. Many interactions with community adults are provided to increase experiences for the middle school students. Sixth graders have to interview an adult, seventh graders have to be interviewed for a mock position by a local business representative, and Building Bridges to Careers has provided Career Mentors that meet with classes, small groups, and individual students in seventh and eighth grade. The Career Mentor program focuses on developing decision making skills, something which middle school students are in need of. By the end of eighth grade, students have to make decisions about the classes they want to take at the high school. The middle school staff is also coordinating a career day for the whole student body.

#### **High School District:**

Marietta High School (MHS) has embraced the College Credit Plus program, expanded the Career Technical Education program, added electives, and coordinated career pathway options based on the 16 Career Clusters. The Career Technical Education (CTE) program is grounded in pathways around technical skills. MHS has offered Engineering and Agriculture for many years, and added the Business/Entrepreneur CTE pathway this year. Sophomores participate in a required Career Search I course that is also part of a CTE pathway. This pathway

includes Career Search II, Leadership, and Health and Wellness. All students complete a job shadow placement, and several students are piloting the Building Bridges to Careers internship program this year. Many students will also be able to take part in the new BB2C Epicenter project, which is a youth and entrepreneurial development center.

