

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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DPS COMMUNITY
CONNECTION
NEWSLETTER

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A PLACE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

At Dayton Public Schools, all employees have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of students and positively shape the future.

New hires will thrive at DPS thanks to its diverse network of support, competitive compensation and benefits, ongoing professional development, and opportunities for growth. Learn more on page 2!

A Q+A WITH DR. MARVIN JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HR



Dr. Marvin Jones is a graduate of DPS, having attended Louise Troy, Miami Chapel, Stivers and Patterson Co-Op. He went on to attend Tennessee State University on a football and academic scholarship where he earned a degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. He later attended Marygrove College where he earned a Master's Degree in Education, and the University of Dayton where he earned a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership.

He has extensive career experience in education, having been a middle school teacher, high school teacher, athletic coach, supervisor of curriculum, middle school principal, high school principal, director of safety & security, director of secondary education, superintendent, and executive director of human resources.

Dr. Jones is a proud husband and father of four children and spends his free time reading non-fiction books.

As Executive Director of HR, what are your goals for this school year?

My goals are to improve overall departmental culture, communication, collaboration, competence, and commitment. In addition, I would like to improve the District's recruitment and retention of employees and streamline HR systems for efficiency and accuracy.

What types of positions are currently available within the district?

There are many open positions at DPS, including teachers, clericals, bus drivers, paraprofessionals, food service workers, custodial, and others. The public can view open positions anytime by visiting the DPS website and clicking "Careers" from the top menu.

Who would you encourage to apply to these positions?

These roles are for anyone who has a passion for working with children and who also wants to be a part of creating positive change in Dayton. The ideal candidates will welcome personal and professional growth and will be committed to excellence.

What qualities do you look for in candidates?

We look for candidates who are effective communicators with a willingness and desire to grow, and who demonstrate compassion, commitment, and competence.

Why would you encourage community members to work for Dayton Public Schools?

The District has competitive pay, excellent benefits, and offers employees the chance to grow professionally, make positive change, and develop lifelong connections.

What would you tell those who may be interested in teaching in DPS?

Overall, teaching in Dayton Public Schools can be a rewarding and challenging experience. If you're passionate about education and dedicated to making a difference in the lives of students, then DPS might be the right place for you. I encourage you to do your research and learn more about Dayton Public Schools and the opportunities we offer. We would love to sit down with you and talk about how your skills, dispositions, expertise, and will to learn can benefit the children of DPS.

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH PREMIER HEALTH

The District has partnered with Premier Health to provide immersive career development experiences for Student Senate, a group of student representatives from each high school.

At each month's meeting, a professional from Premier Health speaks to students about their career, education, journey, lessons learned along the way, and the importance of mentorship. At this point in the year, students have heard from people like the Chief Human Resources Officer and the Director of Diversity – two healthcare careers that don't involve any medical training.

"For many students, when they think about careers in healthcare, they think they have to be a doctor or a nurse," said Sharon (Howard) White, System Director of Community & Government Relations and Site Communications for Premier Health. "Clearly, that is just the tip of the iceberg of all opportunities available to young people in the healthcare arena. If you like graphic design, there's a job for you. If you like IT, there's a job for you. There are all kinds of jobs available that students are just not aware of."

With the theme of "Diversity & Equity," Premier Health is focusing on introducing students to a diverse array of professionals through this partnership to allow students to better visualize themselves in each role. At each meeting, students have the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the education and training required for various career paths, along with the day-to-day role and responsibilities.

"Young people will believe they can be something if they see someone who looks like them in that role," said White.



"If we create opportunities where they can see people who look like them who are successful, then they can walk away believing that they can do it too."

Aneya Ward, a 12th grade student at Thurgood Marshall STEM High School and Student Senate Vice President, said she has enjoyed hearing from the Premier Health representatives at each meeting.

"The conversations have been really good," Ward said. "I really related with the last speaker we had."

Premier Health hopes that by exposing more young people to the multitude of careers available in the healthcare sector, they will start to create a pipeline of future professionals and strengthen their workforce.

"If DPS is successful, the region is successful," White said. "We want students to understand that hard work and dedication could pay off for them."

Student Senate will continue to meet once a month throughout the school year. Tommy Nichols, a 12th grade student at Meadowdale CTC and Student Senate President, will also attend Board of Education meetings to provide regular updates to the Board and community.



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DPS STUDENTS CAN EARN COLLEGE CREDITS IN HIGH SCHOOL FOR FREE

BY DR. SHERRY GALE,
DIRECTOR OF CCP

College Credit Plus (CCP) courses are offered in each Dayton Public high school and provide students the opportunity to take college-level courses for free and earn both college and high school credit simultaneously.

Through these college-level courses, students may take familiar high school subjects at a deeper, more challenging level. They may also take completely new and different subjects outside the usual high school curriculum.

Dayton Public Schools offers CCP courses each semester in each high school. This year, courses from Sinclair Community College and the University of Cincinnati are available. Next year, courses from Central State University will also be offered.

Participating in these CCP courses provides students with the rigor of college classes in the supportive educational environment of their own high school.

Taking CCP courses within the high school setting is a great way to start taking college courses. Once students become familiar with the rigor, pacing and overall expectations of college courses, then students are better prepared to take additional CCP courses on college campuses or online.

Throughout January and early February, DPS will be hosting CCP information sessions in each DPS high school and middle school. These information sessions are the first step in preparing students and their families for 2024-2025 CCP participation. Dates and times for these information sessions will be shared by individual schools and will be available on the DPS website. Families may attend any one of the sessions. Students interested in taking CCP courses in 2024-2025 will then need to sign a CCP Intent Form with their parent/guardian and return it to a school counselor by April 1, 2024.

If you would like to receive additional information regarding CCP, please reach out to a school counselor or contact Sherry Gale, Director of CCP and Scholarships, sgale@daytonpublic.com.