

Fort Frye Local School District



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Monday, November 23, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great excitement that I write a letter of support for the Epicenter grant application that is being pursued by Marietta City Schools and the Building Bridges to Careers (BB2C) organization. Currently, Fort Frye Local Schools is already collaborating with Marietta City Schools and/or the BB2C on various career and/or college readiness efforts, and the Epicenter creates a deeper partnership that allows for students to earn flex credit for career-related courses and the opportunity for business mentoring. Further, our teachers will have opportunities for professional development centered on career-education and there will be great community involvement with the small businesses that operate within the Epicenter.

The Epicenter Flex Credit will provide our students with the opportunity to create their own learning experience while addressing core curricular components. This option will be included in Fort Frye's curriculum guide for students. In order to further develop this option and other opportunities for our students, the resources provided by Building Bridges to Careers will be included in our Career Advising Policy. Specifically, this community resource can help train employees on how to advise students and can provide students with support in transitioning to postsecondary destinations. This Epicenter also allows all of the school districts in Washington County to have access to career learning modules and entrepreneurship activities.

Access to the Epicenter is not a challenge for Fort Frye Local Schools because we transport students to the Marietta area daily for special programs and to the local Career Center.

I feel the Epicenter is exactly the type of program that the Straight A grant was intended to support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Stephanie Starcher".

Dr. Stephanie Starcher,
Fort Frye Local Schools Superintendent