



Miami Valley Career Technology Center Press Release

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MVCTC to Host Group of Educational Policy Leaders from Across United States

Clayton, Ohio – The Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) located in Clayton, will be hosting a group of policy leaders from across the country on March 5, 2009. MVCTC has been chosen as an exemplary school for its focus on the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) topics. This site visit is part of a two-day study trip to Columbus and Dayton, Ohio for select state policy leaders interested in learning about successful practices for infusing STEM into high school education. Participants will tour the school and participate in conversations with the leadership and student body of MVCTC.

Joining this study trip, which is lead by the American Youth Policy Forum, are teams of participants from Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, and Massachusetts. The trip will focus on high school reform efforts at the state and district levels, and specifically will focus on Ohio's investment in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education. The "Investing in STEM Education" trip is part of a larger series of field trips provided by the American Youth Policy Forum, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for state policy leaders to learn more about high school redesign. The American Youth Policy Forum is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional development organization that bridges youth policy, practice, and research for professionals at the national, state, and local levels.

Following the visit to MVCTC, the group will hear from key players in the Dayton's regional STEM efforts, including Susan Bodary, Executive Director of EDvention; Jim Leftwich, President and CEO of Dayton Development Coalition; Tom Lasley, the Dean of Education at the University of Dayton, and Margy Stevens, Executive Director of the Dayton Regional STEM Center. Additionally, trip participants will meet with state and district leaders in Ohio to learn more

about the strategies and policies being implemented to enhance STEM education throughout the state. Speakers from the Governor's office, Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio state legislature, and the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction in Ohio will be addressing the group. These state teams will also hear from representatives from the business community, including Battelle, the Ohio Business Alliance for Higher Education and the Economy, the Air Force Research Laboratory, and the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

MVCTC has worked diligently to include challenging academic classes as part of students career technical education, this allows MVCTC students to learn math, science and technology skills as they relate to their chosen career field. The MVCTC STEM initiative uses the concept of Inquiry Based Learning (IBL), which is a teaching method that ensures students learn their math and science skills in ways that can be applied to real life situations. The students are not just learning theory from a book or instructor, they are learning how to apply the math and science knowledge and solve real problems faced by employees in their career path. Dr. John Boggess, Superintendent of MVCTC, has been quoted saying, "The goal of STEM at MVCTC is to give all students the knowledge necessary to find success in the global economy".

For more information about MVCTC and the 50 career programs and academic opportunities for high school juniors and seniors, please visit www.mvctc.com.

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