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Wolf Administration Visits Franklin County Career and Technology Center, Highlighting PAsmart Proposal to Ensure Students are Work-Ready

Chambersburg, PA – Department of Labor & Industry (L&I) Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development Eileen Cipriani today visited the [Franklin County Career and Technology Center](#) (CareerTech) and highlighted Governor Tom Wolf's [PAsmart](#) proposal to boost opportunities for career and technical education (CTE) and prepare students and workers to get good family-sustaining jobs.

"Promoting career and technical education programs like these at Franklin County CareerTech ensures that we have a job-ready workforce to meet local employers' needs," said Cipriani. "In addition to academic proficiency and solid technical training, the center also provides students with employability skills to build a firm foundation for successful careers or post-secondary education upon graduation."

Deputy Secretary Cipriani toured some of the school's career and technical offerings including Allied Health, Transportation, and Construction program labs. During the tour, Cipriani visited with students from CareerTech's Construction Academy who are involved in a live, building project by participating in the construction of the school's Practical Nursing Training Center on campus.

Staff at Franklin County CareerTech work closely with state agencies and businesses to ensure that curriculum aligns with locally identified high-priority occupations. Developing partnerships that offer post-secondary credits, and industry recognized credentials and certifications, assist students as they transition from high school to college or into a career.

"It is our goal that by 2025, 60 percent of Pennsylvanians will have some form of postsecondary education and training," added Cipriani. "Governor Wolf has proposed historic new investments through PAsmart to improve access for Pennsylvania students and workers to education, training, and career readiness programs. These new investments create a pool of highly-skilled workers for employers and will help students and job seekers obtain the skills they need to obtain good, family sustaining jobs."

Employability and workforce training, including career and technical education, STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), and computer science, are a priority of the Wolf Administration. In the governor's 2018-19 budget, he included PAsmart as a new workforce development proposal to improve coordination and services across commonwealth agencies. As part of the proposal, \$25 million would be invested in STEM and computer science education at all levels, along with \$10 million to develop CTE and STEM career pathways, and promote robust engagement with employers.

“The support that Governor Wolf is proposing for career and technical education through PAsmart is needed and very much appreciated,” said Jim Duffey, Administrative Director of the Franklin County Career and Technology Center. “Our goal is to provide a high level of skilled training for our students that is necessary to enter into careers that are in demand within local industry”.

Franklin County Career and Technology Center provides education for both high school students and adults in Chambersburg, Fannett-Metal, Greencastle-Antrim, Shippensburg, Tuscarora, and the Waynesboro school districts. CareerTech is a vital link in providing quality vocational education training in 21 different trade areas of specialization and is on the cutting edge of automation, mechanization, and technology with regard to industrial training.

For more information about pursuing an education and career in Pennsylvania at any stage of life, visit [PAsmart](#).

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