



To serve the community by empowering people, of all ages, to discover their passion and prepare for their future through career and technical education.

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BUCKEYE CAREER CENTER INSTRUCTOR NAMED 2019 OHIO ACTE POST-SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

New Philadelphia, OH (April 5, 2019) – Buckeye Career Center Adult Education Utility Lineworker instructor Alan Zimmerman has been named the Post Secondary Teacher of the Year by the Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education. Zimmerman, a nearly 10-year employee of Buckeye Career Center, was nominated by Student Services Coordinator Megan Zimmerman. “In his time as an instructor, Alan has created a successful advisory committee that donates time, supplies, and equipment to the program. He is successful in student placement and retention (continued 100% placement), and he does an exceptional job of preparing students for real-world work,” said M. Zimmerman. “Alan is always creative with lesson plans and individualizes them to the needs of each student. He has a good rapport with students and maintains contact with them after completion to ensure they have continued success after program completion,” commented M. Zimmerman.

BCC Adult Education, Curriculum, & Instruction Director Frank Polen believes the honor is well-deserved. “Alan is a connector in every sense of the word. He is passionate about his instruction and our students’ employment,” stated Polen. “Thanks to his work, our program has continued to meet the demands of today's workforce. He lives Buckeye Career Center's mission of helping people *Discover their Passion and Prepare for their Future*,” said Polen.

He was recently instrumental in obtaining a Derrek digger truck from AEP Ohio that allows Utility Lineworker students to learn to bore and set poles. Zimmerman credits those who have come before him and those who continue to support the program. “I pride my program’s success to prior instructors Jon Elvin and Jim Baxter. The other great component to the success of this program is having mentors like Larry Lautzenheiser,” said Zimmerman. He also thanks his advisory board, which is composed of electric and telecom industry leaders from Dover Light & Power, AEP, the city of Wadsworth, the city of Orrville, Carroll Electric Co-Op, as well CTS, Edgar Trent Construction, Thayer Power & Communication, the Harris-McBurney Company, Hinkles & McCoy, and Elevated Services.

Zimmerman and his wife Anna have three grown children and seven grandchildren and reside in New Philadelphia. He retired from Verizon after nearly 25 years of service prior to coming to Buckeye Career Center. Zimmerman will receive his award during the Ohio ACTE Connections to Education Conference Monday, July 29, 2019 in Columbus, OH.

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