



Tri-County  
**Career Center**

Connie Altier – Director  
Tri-County Career  
Center



# Business and Industry Partnerships



# Different Directions

Career and Technical Center with 20 high school programs and 5 adult programs

Customizing the training to fit the market

Using business to help provide the training

# How Tri-County got involved?

Third Sun Solar - Leading solar installer in Ohio and a top 100 installer in the US.

Came to us needing trained workers.

## **What they Needed:**

Applicants with basic understanding of electricity

Applicants with solar training

Where they were finding applicants:

Aspland – roofers – some carpenters and electricians

Applied for an ARC Grant to help fund.

# Popularity of Solar in our area started in early 2000

SOPEC – Projects backed by  
Commissioners –Buy Power as a county

- 140 projects last year 2/3 Residential
- 30% Federal Tax Credit for residential

Energy Conservative area

# Southeastern Ohio Solar History

Third Sun Solar

Dovetail Solar and Wind

Appalachian Renewable Power

EcoLibrium Solar – Manufacturer

# Federal Hocking School Project

- Federal Hocking Secondary School in Stewart, Ohio will be the site of the first solar power plant built through the Solar ACCESS pilot project, according to a news release from UpGrade Ohio, the project sponsor.
- On Feb. 23, Solar ACCESS was selected as one of 35 funded projects across the country in the U.S. Department of Energy's "Solar in Your Community" Challenge, a \$5 million contest to support innovative and replicable community-based solar business models and programs that will bring solar to underserved communities.
- "In addition to the savings, going solar also offers schools an educational component, providing teachers opportunities to incorporate lessons in science, technology, engineering, and math into the curriculum," Geoff Greenfield, founder of Third Sun Solar, said in the release.
- Federal Hocking student interns have worked at Third Sun Solar in the past, and this project will build on that relationship with internships, classroom presentations, and an advanced data monitoring system connecting students and faculty with the science behind the technology, the release said.

# Things we will add to our curriculum

Solar Trainers in the lab

Solar Panels outside the lab

Solar Terminology through science, and math

On the job internships

Purchase agreements and AEP side

Energy Conservation

Labs that will be involved



# Why is Athens County a hot spot for Solar?

- Like minded
- \* Three Solar Powered Breweries
- \* 23 Solar Companies in Ohio and Three are in Athens County
- \*SOPAC
- \*Solar Access
- \*Green Energy Ohio

# Community Connections

We are always eager to update  
our curriculum

Give new opportunities to  
students!

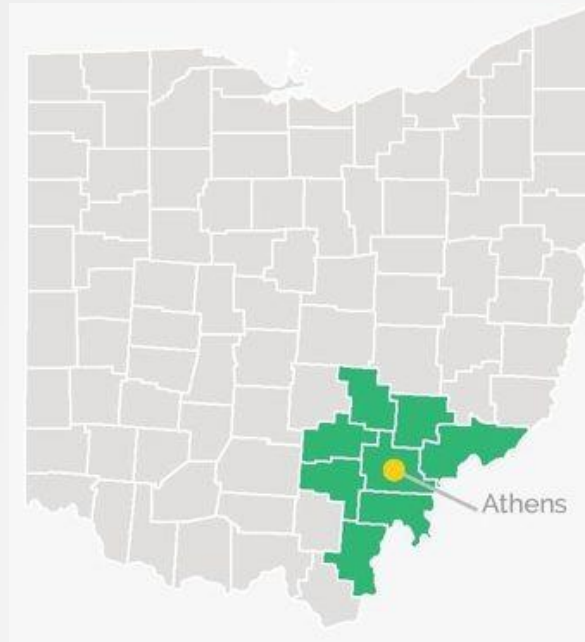




# Partnering with Businesses

- Concrete Companies
- Electrical Companies
- Offering Internships or Early Placement
- Serving on our Advisory Committees

# Resources



## Counties

Athens

Gallia

Hocking

Meigs

Morgan

Perry

Vinton

Washington

- Green Energy Ohio
- Upgrade Ohio
- Sopec
- Bloomberg News



