

# Effingham Education Center

Annual Board Report FY 2020

August 10, 2020

The Effingham Education Center (Kluthe Center) has offered higher education opportunities to Effingham and surrounding communities since 1995. Thousands of students have taken classes, completed degrees at this facility and utilized the services offered. This year has been full of changes with Karen Kull retiring in February and COVID-19 disrupting life in March. Despite the changes the Effingham Education center has continued to offer the following programs:

<p><b>Associate in Applied Science</b> 2-year program and then workforce ready Eligible for Financial Aid</p> <p>Cohort programs Classes held at the Kluthe Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Associate Degree in Nursing*</b></li><li>• <b>Physical Therapist Assistant*</b></li><li>• <b>LPN to ADN (one-year program)</b></li></ul> <p>*Some science classes may have to be taken online or at the Mattoon campus</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b> One year or less and then workforce ready Eligible for Financial Aid</p> <p>Cohort programs Classes held at the Kluthe Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Practical Nursing (one year)</b></li><li>• <b>Massage Therapy (one year)</b></li><li>• <b>Basic Nursing Assistant</b></li></ul>
<p><b>Non Degree Certificate</b> Workforce ready <b>Ineligible</b> for FAFSA Aid but may be eligible for other types of aid</p> <p>Cohort program Classes held at the Kluthe Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Basic Nurse Assisting (8 credit hours)</b></li></ul>	<p>Classes held at the Kluthe Center and Effingham High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Basic Welding (10.5 credit hours)</b></li></ul>

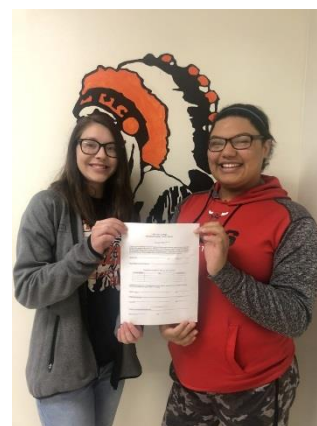
## Community Partnerships:

### Lake Land College Day at the Kluthe Center:

Each year in March, juniors from Effingham County High Schools are invited to spend a morning or afternoon at the Effingham Education Center. Students attend sessions about how to enroll or pay for college (no matter which college they attend) and what the Effingham Education Center offers, and also receive information on many different college programs and career paths. Our 2020 Kluthe Day even had over 320 students registered but was cancelled due to COVID-19. The next event is scheduled tentatively for **March 21, 2021**

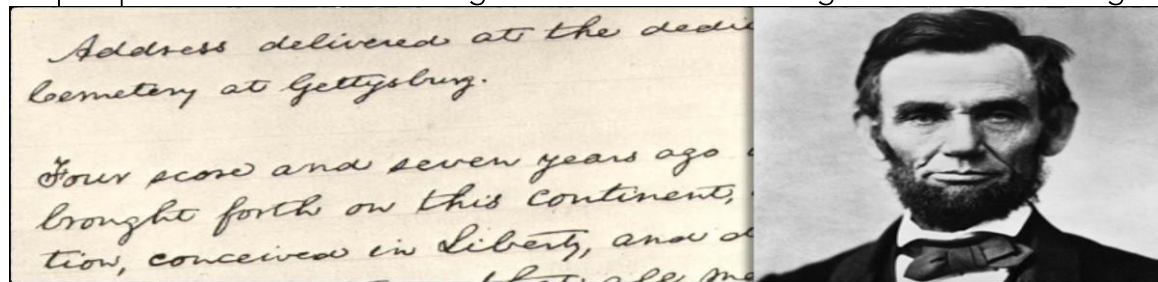
### Effingham Manufacturing Day:

Effingham Education Center plays a major role in Effingham County Manufacturing Day. The event is hosted by the Effingham Chamber of Commerce and was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019. Over 250 students from 15 different schools attended the event. The entire day was geared for students to consider careers in manufacturing as they get to know the companies that are located in Effingham County, what jobs they offer and what they produce. Lake Land College has a big presence at this event to help guide students who are interested in these careers. The students were given a chance to tour different manufacturing facilities in Effingham and then meet with representatives from the college and local employers. Six in-district high school students were also selected to receive a tuition waiver. The next Manufacturing Day is scheduled tentatively for **October 1, 2020**.



### Lincoln Event:

Lake Land College and the Effingham County Cultural Center and Museum Association partnered to offer a 6th annual historical presentation about Abraham Lincoln, *Authenticating the Handwriting of Abraham Lincoln*. Unfortunately, the event had to be postponed but we are looking forward to rescheduling when the time is right.



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### Resources and Services for Students:

We offer the following services for our students:

- Daily registration assistance
- Student ID cards
- Pickup and return textbook and library materials
- Test proctoring
- Orientation assistance
- Adult Ed courses
- Academic counseling by appointment
- Trio meetings by appointment
- Monthly events sponsored by the Student Activity Board
- Free computer access and printing
- Community Learning Classes
- ESL Courses
- GED Courses

### Speak with Student Services Reps

Thursday, Oct. 24, 8:15-11:15 a.m.

Counseling Services  
Emily Hartke



Financial Aid  
Kellie Niemerg



TRiO Student Support Services  
Amber Niebrugge



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### Student Services Hours:

This year we implemented Student Services hours allowing students could have access to an academic counselor, a financial aid advisor, and a Trio representative, in person. We're hopeful this is beneficial to students that may only take courses at Kluthe and don't get the opportunity to speak with someone in these departments on a regular basis. Students were given a piece of candy if they stopped by the table and asked a question about student services.

### C.E.F.S. Event

Each year we host a tuition assistance event with C.E.F.S. This organization has funding available through WIOA for students in eligible workforce ready programs. This funding is on top of the financial aid they may already receive. We've had a great turnout in years past but unfortunately, this year's event had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. We instead sent an email to all students enrolled in eligible programs and have received great feedback from C.E.F.S. so far regarding student contact. We are happy to connect any student that may be in need of additional financial assistance this fall.

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## Rural Development Technology Center

The Effingham Regional Career Academy board and business partners have been busy planning, and hosted several different meetings this past year. Programs and Curriculum met this past March to discuss sequencing and an Agriculture Track. Currently, the intergovernmental agreements between the school districts have been put on hold until legal work can occur. School attorneys are busy dealing with COVID related issues but we're hopeful we can have our next Board of Directors meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> to continue planning for the Academy.



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## EFFINGHAM REGIONAL CAREER ACADEMY

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### Karen Kull Retires

Karen Kull has been the director of the Effingham Education Center for 28 years. She was honored with a retirement party at Tuscan Hills this past February. Karen was an integral part of the Effingham County community and participated in several different community organizations including Sunrise Rotary and the Effingham Chamber of Commerce. Karen truly knew everything about the building (and Lake Land in general)! She was constantly finding ways to improve things. From classrooms to course offerings, Karen stopped at nothing to make sure students that took courses at Kluthe had the same opportunities that students up on our main campus do. I speak for the entire Kluthe staff when I say we will miss her dearly!



### Niemerg replaces Kull

Kellie Niemerg was named the new Director of Effingham Education Center, replacing Karen on March 1<sup>st</sup>. She is a Lake Land College alumna and has a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and Master's degree of College Student Affairs from Eastern Illinois University. She's been with the college for 7 years, spending two years in academic counseling and five years in financial aid. She has two young boys and resides in Dieterich with her husband, Craig. She's looking forward to representing Lake Land College a little closer to home and carrying on the legacy Karen left behind!



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### **Pandemic:**

March brought many changes to the building as COVID disrupted day to day activities. Our students and staff were sent home and our building sat empty. Students returned a few months later to complete labs and clinical work required for their programs. We've been busy getting ready for the fall semester. Our classrooms are set up for social distancing although many will be taught online. We expect to have students picking up textbooks soon and we're excited to be back to a (somewhat) new normal.



### **What's Next?**

In line with our main campus, and other community colleges across the state, declining enrollment continues to be a problem for our building.

Kluthe Center Headcount - End of Term Reports				
	Summer	Fall	Spring	Total
FY20	72	382	305	759
FY19	127	460	338	925
FY18	121	524	404	1049
FY17	119	526	435	1080

We're hopeful with the implementation of the new guided pathways initiative we might be able to secure a pathway specific to Kluthe. We're also interested to see what the shift to virtual learning could mean for the future of higher education. This pandemic has encouraged us to explore instructor interest in expanding distance learning offerings to include some of the new virtual modalities recently adopted. We will be working hard these coming semesters to try and increase enrollment in our building.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Kellie Niemerg- Director Effingham Education Centers  
217-540-3500

FY20 ENROLLMENT IN AT LEAST ONE KLUTHE CENTER COURSE				
TERM	SU2019	FA2019	SP2020	TOTAL
HEADCOUNT	72	382	305	759
ENROLLED ONLY AT KLUTHE	58	141	137	336
FTE	26.8	208.3	175.1	410.2

TERM	FA2017	FA2018	FA2019	TOTAL
HEADCOUNT	524	460	382	1366
ENROLLED ONLY AT KLUTHE	205	161	141	507
FTE	283.6	225.3	208.3	717.2

MOST POPULAR PROGRAMS			
TERM		FA2018	FA2019
CERTIFICATE	PRACTICAL NURSING	23+7(T)*	29+3 (T)*
	MASSAGE THERAPY	17	9+2 (T)*
AAS	PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT	41+6(T)*	40+2 (T)*
	ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSE	59+54(T)*	64+37 (T)*
AA and AS	BUSINESS	28 (1)	35
	OTHER	15 (2)	18
	PSYCHOLOGY	13 (3)	18
	UNDECIDED	13 (3)	14
	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	11	12
	EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION	3	10

\*T = Track program

FISCAL YEAR	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
HEADCOUNT	1080	1049	925	759
FTE	514.4	529.0	443.4	410.2

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