



Aurora Public Schools

Hands-On Teaching, Affordability Keep Pickens Tech on Top

If you've ever walked the halls at Pickens Technical College, one common theme you'd notice is the family-like environment on which the school thrives. Although many colleges and universities claim to have that same attribute, ask around: Pickens talks the talk and they walk the walk.

Pickens is one of only three colleges of its kind still operating in Colorado. The school offers nearly 50 programs to adults and high school students as part of the Aurora Public Schools and Colorado Community College System with the goal of providing students state-of-the-art skills that will enable them to be workforce ready immediately upon completion.

Pickens recently highlighted some of those state-of-the-art skills during the 9News Health Fair In the Classroom. The fair provided the opportunity for other local students to get full health screenings by those who are currently mastering the techniques. And for staff members like dental assisting instructor Tim Ehgots, opportunities like this have helped Pickens solidify its place in the higher-education arena.

"It's a skill-driven, affordable learning environment that leads to continued education," Ehgots said, who is in his 31st year at Pickens. "They get the classroom, the lab, the shop, the clinic ... They work on one another."

In addition to teaching hands-on skills, Pickens prides itself on showing students the subtleties needed to do well once they leave those doors.

"Not only do we teach them how to work on cars, but we teach them the soft skills on how to do an interview, how to shake hands professionally..." said automotive instructor Rolf Werner. "The training we do here is top-notch."



2012 Community Update Now Available

The APS Community Update is now available at <http://aurorak12.org/update>. This update provides information about student academic progress including ACT, CSAP and CSAPA scores, Adequate Yearly Progress performance and teacher quality data for the 2010-11 school year.

If you would like a printed copy of the data, contact the APS Communication Department at 303-365-7805.

