



# JOSH MANDEL

## STATE TREASURER OF OHIO

By Mindy McKenzie | Shelby Daily Globe

SHELBY - On Friday afternoon, Pioneer Career and Technology's Power Equipment program welcomed a visitor to speak with them about the importance of skilled trade workers in today's work force.

Josh Mandel, Treasurer of Ohio, made a special visit to Pioneer after conducting a recent telephone town hall meeting. "One of the ladies in the telephone town hall meeting mentioned that her husband, Mr. Harvey, works at Pioneer and that I should come visit Pioneer because they are training young people to be the skilled trade workers in tomorrow's economy," said Mandel.

Rick Harvey, Power Equipment instructor at Pioneer, said his wife made the initial contact with Mandel. "We tried to talk via telephone but we just couldn't work out a time that would work out for both of us. On Thursday, he just left a message saying that he was coming to the school. We hurried up and got everything ready," said Harvey.

This was Mandel's very first time visiting Pioneer. "I came here to thank Pioneer and recognize them for what they are doing to educate young people in the skilled trades and to generate a next generation of young people in Richland County and in Ohio who can operate machines, work as welders in manufacturing companies, and other important jobs," said Mandel.

Mandel explained his thoughts on Pioneer. "It is very impressive. The school facilities are very impressive and the programs they offer are terrific and the kids ask great questions," said Mandel.

Mandel visited with students and discussed Pioneer and how the state can invest more in career and technical schools. "The kids asked questions about my Marine Corps service and they asked questions about the Treasurer's office," said Mandel.

Mandel shared what his advice would be to the students of Pioneer. "My advice to them is to continue on this path of skilled trades. In large part, the back bone of Richland County and Ohio's economy is based in jobs with manufacturing, agriculture, and construction. I think these jobs as pipe fitters, welders, machinists, carpenters, and electricians are some of the most important jobs we have in America," said Mandel.

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