MEET BVHS BOARD MEMBER

Paul Worstell

Not many of us see the sun rise on a daily basis. We rarely glimpse the faint burst of orange peaking over the horizon. But Paul Worstell sets his alarm for 5 a.m. to rise with the sun. He laces up his exercise shoes and heads off to the gym to get ready for the day. This early morning routine is one example of Paul's work ethic and personal philosophy for everything he does.

Paul moved to Findlay with his wife and three children in 1996 from western Pennsylvania. After many years with US Steel, Paul had been chosen to lead PRO-TEC Coating in Leipsic, Ohio and, much like his exercise shoes, hit the ground running, helping to mold PRO-TEC into a global company. Established as a joint venture in 1990 by two global leaders in steel technology and production – United States Steel Corporation and Kobe Steel, Ltd., of Japan, Northwest Ohio was chosen as PRO-TEC’s location because of the proximity to automotive customers and steel makers as well as excellent rail and truck transportation. “Leaving Pittsburgh was tough – it had been my home since childhood. I couldn’t have imagined at that time what good fortune it was to be asked to move to the Findlay area. The people of this community are very special, and I am forever grateful to call it my home now.”

A self-described “mill guy,” Paul brought his spirit of service from many years of watching his father work in the Pennsylvania steel mills. “I was convinced that with a little effort, PRO-TEC could be one of the finest companies in America,” Paul said. “In the early 2000s, PRO-TEC was the sole provider of advanced high-strength steel to the automotive industry. This steel improved the car’s frame in a crash and saved lives. It was work I was honored to be a part of. My father’s many years of service was an inspiration to me. I was blessed to be part of a great company and surrounded by great people, who are the reason that PRO-TEC earned the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 2007.” This award, the nation’s highest Presidential honor for performance excellence, would not have been possible, according to Paul, without the selfless dedication of PRO-TEC associates to quality and safety.

Upon his retirement, Paul wanted to continue to give back to the community and people of the Findlay area that mean so much to him. With this goal, Paul serves on several boards, bringing love, laughter and friendship with him. He serves within the St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church on Parish council and sits on the board of the Findlay Family YMCA, where he helps organize the YMCA golf tournament each year. His favorite part of the YMCA board – meeting new extraordinary citizens of the Findlay community. He also lends his business knowledge to the bright young minds of Findlay by sitting on the College of Business Advisory Board at The University of Findlay. Additionally, he loved serving as an adjunct professor within the University of Findlay College of Business where he taught an Organizational Leadership class on campus; an activity to which he would like to someday return.

Finally, Paul lends his services to Blanchard Valley Health System as the vice chairman of the board of directors, as well as a member of the executive and quality committees. BVHS reaps strategic planning benefits from having a skilled community servant working to help the health system continue to run to the best of its capabilities.

Paul’s time on the board at BVHS is different than his years at PRO-TEC. The business models are different, but in the end, Paul always brings his sensibilities and his art to masterfully harmonize a business and its working parts. “All of my professional experiences have been in manufacturing, which was important work. However, providing quality health care in our community is critical to the overall strength of the community. Health care is a steep learning curve and is complicated. In manufacturing we would focus on processes and reducing variation to control outcomes and enhance predictability. Health care provides different challenges. I would say that I have learned much more than I have given through this experience.”

Paul has proven his dedication to helping serve the health system, and has handled the challenges of each task as smoothly as if he is taking part in his morning exercise. Serving on the board is an experience for which Paul is grateful; a task that provides him with a true sense of service to Hancock County. “Serving on the board is very fulfilling. I have and always will consider it a privilege to serve through this outlet,” he said. “Being a member of the board has allowed me to interact with extraordinary community servants. It has been a privilege for me to get to know the extremely dedicated and skilled professionals working each day to make BVHS a world class health system.”