In 1955, a young steel salesman named John McConnell saw an opportunity for custom-processed steel—and he dove right in. He purchased his first load of steel by borrowing $600 against his 1952 Oldsmobile, and then used that money to start Worthington Industries in Columbus, Ohio. On March 27, the Pathways scholars had the opportunity to visit Worthington Industries’ cold-rolling steel processing facility. Built in 1970 and continuously expanded over the past ~50 years, the facility employs 190 people to produce about 250,000 tons of cold-rolled steel per year. The company produces 700 – 1100 different products.

The group received a tour of the facility, rolling mill, slitting, annealing and temper mill. The students were amazed by the size of the steel rolls and impressed by the many different products that rely on steel as a foundational component – as illustrated in the WI wall of products. Many thanks to Plant Manager, Demetri Michaelides for leading the tour, as well as Kate Williams (Technical Services Metallurgist, OSU c/o 2016) and Allison Fouss (Rotational Management Trainee). In addition, thanks to Ellen Fecher, Manager GM for helping to arrange the tour.

On April 2, Nestle supply chain representatives will visit campus to meet with the group. April 23 will be the end of year celebration/thank you lunch for our sponsors.

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