

OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER!

2020 has been a year of firsts. Schools (and many of our workplaces) look vastly different than they have in previous years. As a community, many of us have made enormous leaps forward in technology adoption and implementation. Yet, the socio-economic challenges that existed in our community before this pandemic still loom over us as we further our efforts in workforce development and strengthen our local K-12 systems. Thankfully, our community is dedicated to this work and we've been busy innovating! This newsletter is a quick update on some of the work we've been pioneering in 2020.

Three big things to keep on your radar!

1. First, a reminder: Our next quarterly main Business Advisory Council meeting will be held via Zoom on November 19th from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. We'll also host another round of our five working group meetings throughout the month of November.

2. We've adapted quickly! Let's celebrate the success of Construction Appreciation Week and Manufacturing Month! We'd like to take a moment and thank our partners that helped us put together these wonderful videos, resources, and events!



A Career Adventures Camper learns a new skill.

3. We'd love your perspective. Starting November 16th, our most ambitious opportunity yet, Health Professions Week, will begin in coordination with our partners in the healthcare community. Regardless of your role or industry, we encourage you to check out what we've built for this exciting career connections week of action. We believe these are the types of events we'll be able to continue to offer once this public health crisis has ended. We'd love your input on how it went and ways we could innovate in the future!



COVID-19 has placed incredible pressures on local school districts, but through the collaborative efforts of our local business advisory council, I believe we can continue to provide high quality career connections opportunities for our region's children.

Shannon Cox, Superintendent, Montgomery County Educational Service Center

QUICK UPDATES FROM THE BAC'S WORKING GROUPS



Educator Engagement Working Group

We recently held a Graduation Network Meeting to assist districts in properly navigating this year's challenges and supporting students through graduation. We're also exploring ways we can train some of our teachers to better reflect the industries they are training students to enter. One such effort occurred this summer via a collaboration between SOCHE and CareSource with an IT Teacher Externship pilot. Since this effort, we've also worked with Counselors for Computing to enroll teachers in training around computer science career exploration. In addition, our Career Champions and Counselors Network continues to work closely with industry leaders to learn about the different in-demand career fields in our region.



I Can Be Anything I Want to Be A to Z: Nurse Practitioner
Click on the image above to view the video.

Where we're at right now in this working group:

1. We're currently reaching out to districts and seeing if they plan to participate in National Health Professions Week. We're working to see what events they are sending students to participate in and whether it will be done in class, at home via YouTube Live, or asynchronously after the week's planned events conclude.
2. We're also looking at how we can assist districts in designing opportunities for students to take advantage of their YouScience results.
3. We're working to individually check-in with Career Champions and teachers to conduct more accurate tracking and follow up after our planned career connections events.



Parent + Community Engagement Working Group

We've heard our partners on our BAC loud and clear. It's tough to communicate in the COVID-19 era. This working group is currently exploring ways we can break through the noise and deluge of emails and notifications parents are receiving right now. We'd like to thank everyone who shared our information about Construction Appreciation Week. We received great feedback from students and we now need to focus on collecting feedback from parents during these events.

Where we're at right now in this working group:

1. We've created a parent-focused handout to educate parents and guardians about their role during Health Professions Week. We're now working with districts to push out this handout.
2. We're working to properly identify the best community-specific social media groups in each district to share out resources, events, and other career connections opportunities.
3. We're exploring ways to unlock how we can better engage alumni from our region's high schools to talk virtually with students about their careers.
4. We're working to create a list of community groups and partners that can also share our BAC's monthly recommended career connections social media posts.



Student Engagement Working Group

We've designed several virtual career exploration events to reach students in creative new ways during this pandemic. As we complete each of these efforts, we intend to survey students and learn what worked and what needs to be changed. So far, we've received great feedback from students. If you recall from last year's parent and student listening sessions, students overwhelmingly requested more hands-on activities during schoolwork. This is a fundamental challenge to consider as we develop events and opportunities that will last beyond this quarantine. We're also exploring ways to host virtual career fairs, since many of our districts are interested. We're currently exploring multiple platforms and partners to help facilitate these types of events. Lastly, we're exploring ways to fund Nepris and YouScience to help provide more resources and opportunities to students in learning about careers and seeing what careers best fit their interests and aptitudes.

Where we're at right now in this working group:

1. We need to survey students and incorporate their feedback from our career connections weeks of action. We also need to continue to tinker with the ways we ask students to participate in our events.
2. We're excited to participate in National Health Professions Week's virtual career fair. We encourage members of our community to participate in this event and form an opinion on the best way to host local versions of these types of events. We're also closely following Junior Achievement's local efforts to host a virtual career fair for our region.
3. We plan to closely collaborate with partner districts to see how K-5 teachers participate in National Health Professions Week. We're curious to see how our A to Z videos connect with students and ways we can help support outreach at this key level of the continuum.



*MCESC Construction Appreciation Week Day 4:
Sinclair's Construction Boom
Click on the image above to view the video.*



Industry Engagement Working Group

Through close partnership with our Pathways to Prosperity team, we're working with local industry groups to form subcommittees focused specifically on workforce development in our K-12 systems. This work stems from the enormous success we've seen over the last decade through partnership with the Dayton Regional Manufacturers Association, their education subcommittee, and their MFG Month annual activities. Now, we're working closely with the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association to form an Education Committee within their industry group to better connect our region's health care networks into our schools. We're also conducting a similar effort with Technology First by forming a Workforce committee within their group to foster more collaboration with our tech community.

At the same time these committees spin up, we're also working closely with partners like SOCHE to create more work-based learning opportunities for students.

Where we're at right now in this working group:

1. We're forming industry-led education subcommittee groups within their respective industry organizations.
2. We're working with SOCHE to build more work-based learning opportunities (primarily internships) for students in our region. We need our schools to identify intern-ready students. We need employers to step up and participate in these existing programs.
3. We're also working to update the BAC's online presence to make it easier for employers to participate in our collective efforts.

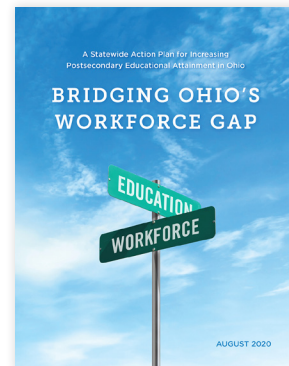


Policy + Advocacy Working Group

This newly formed subcommittee has met once and we're excited to explore various ways to connect with our elected policy makers, industry partners, school leaders, families, alumni, and students to foster more opportunities for work-based learning in Ohio. We're currently working to form a policy agenda that will help direct our work for the rest of the school year.

Where we're at right now in this working group:

1. We're currently looking over existing policy documents and working with our Pathways to Prosperity team to see if other states have enacted policies we should be exploring.
2. We're also exploring the way workforce data is currently being recorded and shared with partners.

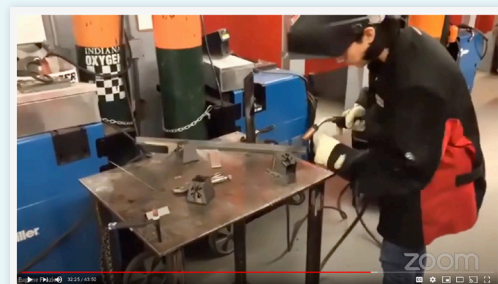


Click on the image above to read the Action Plan.

2020 Career Connections Weeks of Action Update

Construction Appreciation Week of Action (September 14th – 18th)

The ESC and Learn to Earn Dayton recently partnered with Sinclair College and the Miami Valley Apprenticeship Coordinators Group to host five YouTube Live career connections sessions. Each weekday featured a different 40-minute virtual presentation and tour with opportunities for students to ask questions. Several districts participated in this pilot. We surveyed a class of high schoolers at Miamisburg for their main takeaways and they submitted reactions like "I didn't know women did these jobs" and "construction apprenticeships are a great alternative to college."



MCESC Construction Appreciation Week, Day 1
Click on the image above to view the video.



Manufacturing Month (October) and Manufacturing Day (October 2nd)

The pandemic caused Manufacturing Day to look very different this year. Since we weren't able to send thousands of students out into companies for in-person, hands-on tours, we created a series of professionally produced local videos highlighting various careers in advanced manufacturing. They can be found at this link: youtube.com/user/DaytonRMA. As part of our local strategy, we also took our Career Champions & Counselors Academy on a virtual tour with leaders from United Grinding. Lastly, we shared a DRMA sponsored packet of resources and activities for schools with a formalized way for teachers to request virtual speakers.

National Health Professions Week (November 16th – 20th)



The ESC and L2ED have teamed up with the Dayton Regional STEM Center and GDAHA to begin planning for National Health Professions Week. This initiative is dedicated to informing students about the various career pathways available to them in the healthcare field. This will be done through several virtual events with a variety of formats and guests. There will be live chats featuring Dayton Children's Hospital staff where students can engage with speakers and ask questions via YouTube Live.

Some of these events will be hosted by health professionals, while others will be led by educational partners or students in the healthcare field. In addition, there will be a virtual career fair dedicated to helping students listen to various speakers from across the country. This effort will be a valuable tool for helping students learn about healthcare career pathways and how they can become a part of this ever-expanding in-demand career field. To learn more about what we have planned during this week of action, visit our website: sites.google.com/mcesc.org/hpw/.



Computer Science Education Week (December 7th – 13th)

code.org highlights Ohio has nearly 12,000 open computing jobs yet our state is only producing about 1,580+ computer science graduates a year. Simply put, we have a ton of great resources and opportunities for students to explore careers in computer science, cyber, and information technology but we need to better train leaders in how to talk with students about careers in these fields. In December, we're teaming up with the national organization, Counselors for Computing, to put on a special week of training for 80 counselors

and education leaders on how to get students excited about these careers, and collaborate with outside partners to further share the tech opportunities for our region's students. This full week of professional development will be complemented by national programming as well. Alongside these efforts, we're working with Technology First and SOCHE to expand work-based learning opportunities for students by creating a Workforce Development Subcommittee with guidance from the Pathways to Prosperity network.

For more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to
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