



educational service center
of Central Ohio



Business Advisory Council

2023-2024

A New Model, A Renewed Investment

This past summer the Ohio General Assembly passed the state's biennial budget bill (HB33) for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 with a renewed focus and investment in communities, people, workforce, and building a thriving economy. And as part of any thriving economy, the education system within such is a key piece of the framework. Ohio businesses and employers are reliant on an educated workforce to support their needs and future growth.

To better enable this support, the legislation included several provisions and related appropriations focused on continuing to enhance connections between the state's education system and workforce. Such provisions included a restructuring of the state's education governance model to ensure that workforce needs are a priority. This new model establishes the Department of Education and Workforce (DEW), formerly the Ohio Department of Education, and includes a new director for the agency appointed and reporting directly to the governor. In addition, the agency will have two deputy directors by law with one overseeing the DEW's Division of Primary and Secondary Education and the other overseeing the Division of Career-Technical Education.

This restructuring was supported by many organizations in the business community including the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Excels, Ohio Manufacturers' Association, Ohio Home Builders Association, among others, hoping to end fragmentation within the education system while providing better accountability clearly focused on workforce readiness and education outcomes. While this restructuring is in its early stages and will surely take time to organize, the ESC's Business Advisory Council (BAC) is well underway making many of these connections right now here in Central Ohio.

Supporting students and their schools in making real connections with employers and their workforce needs is a goal of the Business Advisory Council and will continue to be under the new state model of education governance. The following plan will share how the Business Advisory Council will take focused and intentional steps to enhance school and employer connections while supporting their efforts to better prepare students for careers and life after high school, no matter the path.



Regional Approach

In order to meet the wide needs of BAC members, the ESC has taken a regional approach to leverage and connect to the work that is happening across Central Ohio.

This work is being done in partnership with the Central Ohio Compact, Workforce Development Boards, the New Skills for Youth Initiative, the Central Ohio Pre-Apprenticeship Hub, non-profit organizations, area chambers of commerce, and workforce development agencies. Regional programs and plans have been created to expose students to in-demand careers, scale internship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities, support regional mentoring programs to connect students directly to business and industry mentors, and provide professional development opportunities and technical assistance.



Showcasing this regional alignment, the BAC held a K-12 educator boot camp in partnership with the Columbus Chamber and Chamber Foundation during the summer of 2023. By touring local businesses and industries, educators from throughout Central Ohio gained insight into the vast number of local careers available to students upon graduation as well as the skills needed for each occupational sector. The participants developed plans for how they will utilize the information learned to better prepare and advise students on their path to a successful career. All participants were able to earn graduate credit from Ashland University. The participants, from 10 different school districts, visited BAC business/industry partners in the occupational sectors of Construction, Information Technology, Healthcare, and Advanced Manufacturing. These regional boot camps will be expanded in the 2023-2024 school year.



Educator Bootcamp Feedback

“This was a great experience and I have already told others in my building to look for it next year. I am so glad I took this course, and I agree with my colleague, this should be embedded into the CTE curriculum for new CTE teachers.”

“This bootcamp was an amazing experience! I gained valuable knowledge and ideas on how to expand on our current pathways, as well as partnerships to best support our students in providing meaningful experiences to better enhance their educational journey.”



Employer Bootcamp Feedback

“I loved seeing how excited the teachers were to do the activities we shared in their classroom. Many of the teachers mentioned that they did not know about specific roles in tech so I’m glad we were able to share those with them”.

“Teachers really did not know what manufacturing had to offer their students or that we were so willing to partner with them”.

Additional regional pathway events for students and teachers highlighting other occupational sectors will be held throughout the 2023-2024 school year.

The BAC also worked with the Central Ohio Pre-Apprenticeship Hub (COPAH), a regional partner, to host and facilitate two pre-apprenticeship forums. The forums included informational and technical assistance sessions regarding how to build a pre-apprenticeship program as well as opportunities for educational and business partners to network and begin connecting to create work-based learning (WBL) experiences for students. There were also sessions from ApprenticeOhio representatives and panel discussions highlighting best practices for existing pre-apprenticeship programs in Construction, Information Technology, Plumbing, and Transportation. These efforts led to several new pre-apprenticeship programs being developed amongst our BAC partners. Scaling WBL opportunities across Central Ohio to ensure access for all students will continue to be a focus for the 2023-2024 school year.

Interconnected throughout this work are initiatives directly aligned to ODE’s Future Forward Ohio framework with a focus on preparing students for future success. Programs include partnerships with DriveOhio, Goodwill of Central Ohio and Marion County, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters. The BAC facilitates the connections of businesses into the K-12 space with school districts. In addition, virtual tools for WBL opportunities have been developed and deployed for school district utilization to reach middle and high school level students.

Collaborating with Employers

BAC employers represent a wide spectrum of industry sectors, including the high-demand industry sectors of Information Technology, Logistics, Advanced Manufacturing, and Healthcare.



Advanced
Manufacturing



Healthcare



Construction



Logistics



Information
Technology

Business Advisory Council Participants

- AT&T
- NiSource
- Columbus Chamber of Commerce
- Columbus Chamber Foundation
- AWS InCommunities
- Ohio Contractors Association
- White Castle Foundation
- Performance Automotive Network
- Rosati Windows
- Worthington Industries
- NIFCO
- NetOps
- FlyOhio
- ZED Digital
- EcoPlumbers
- R.T. Moore Mechanical Contractors
- Capital City Trailers Inc.
- Advance Auto parts
- Cardinal health
- MedVet
- Mid-Ohio Foodback
- The Strait & Lamp Group
- City Barbeque
- Hamilton Parker
- DriveOhio
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- The Rickenbacker Employer Assistance Network
- Honda
- Roto
- Ease
- Wendy's
- FST Logistics
- Franklin County Job and Family Services
- Workforce Development Board of Central Ohio
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
- Central Ohio Transit Authority
- State Support Team 11
- American Electric Power
- Columbus Regional Airport Authority
- TechCorps
- OSA Technology Partners
- Transfr
- Community Shelter Board
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Goodwill
- Fluvitex USA
- One Columbus
- CGI
- Otterbein University
- The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
- EastIT
- Path Robotics
- Kokosing OCnstruction Company
- OhioHealth
- Turner
- Ignite Industrial Professionals
- Independent electrical Contractors Central Ohio Chapter

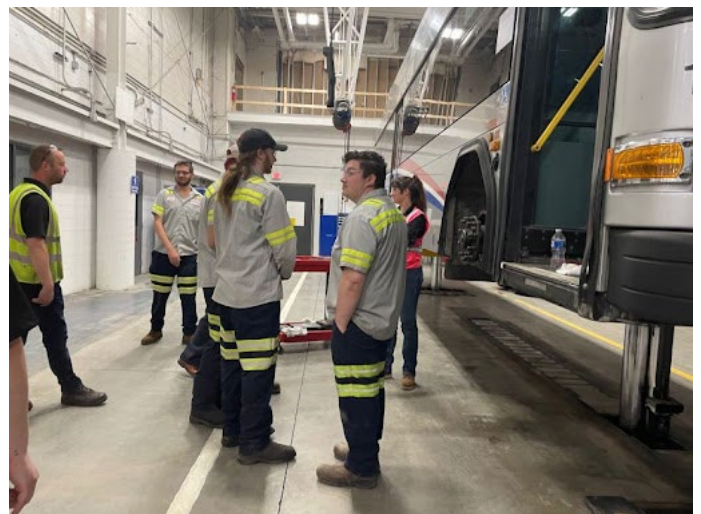


Benefits of the ESC's Business Advisory Council

Business advisory councils have been required by law since 1995 and can provide benefits for every Ohio school district. With the addition of business advisory standards in HB49, a renewed emphasis and focus at the state level was placed on the importance of establishing active business advisory councils and emphasizing that their work is critical in today's economy.

The Council will advise local school districts on changes in the economy and job market by:

- Identifying new and emerging careers
- Aligning career pathways with careers
- Offering districts recommendations on needed knowledge, skills and competencies
- Advocating for effective curriculum
- Offering work-based learning opportunities
- Making recommendations on facilities and equipment needed to teach
- Work-based skills and career exploration
- Supporting local school districts by offering suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and educators



Business Advisory Council Participants



What's Next?

The 2023-2024 Business Advisory Council will operate using three quality practices:

- Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers
- Build Partnerships
- Coordinate Experiences

In order to accomplish these practices, the ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council (BAC) meets on a quarterly basis. This school year's meetings are scheduled for October 19, 2023; December 14, 2023; February 15, 2024; and April 18, 2024. The Business Advisory Council will also have work groups that include diverse student representation and will meet on a regular basis in-between the quarterly meetings to carry out the work of the council.

Business Advisory Council plans for the 2023-2024 academic year to Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers:

- Bridge Ed Partnership
- Pathway program support/alignment
- Regional occupational sector events
- Regional mentoring partnerships
- Regional industry credentialing training
- Regional educator professional development
- Participation in the U.S. Dept. of Education's Career Z Challenge

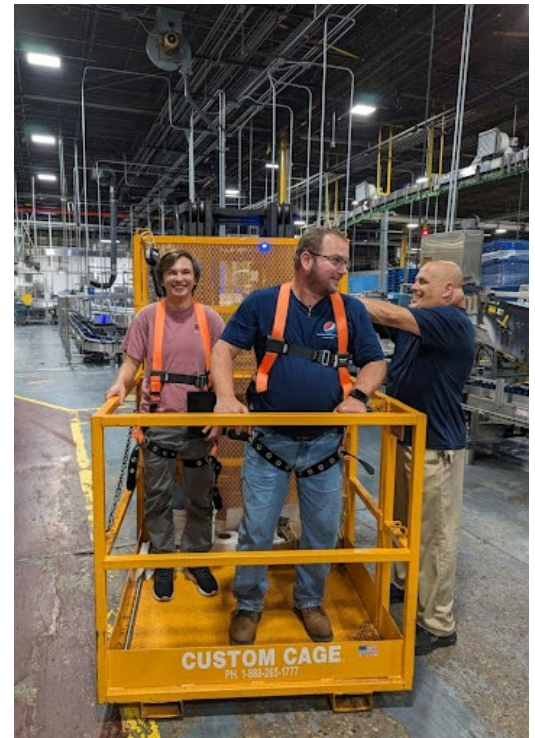


Business Advisory Council plans for the 2023-2024 academic year to Build Partnerships:

- Central Ohio Compact
- Chamber of Commerce workforce experiences
- Educator Workforce Boot Camps
- Central Ohio Pre-apprenticeship Hub
- Non-profit partnerships to provide mentoring & credential training
- Family awareness messaging work group
- Central Ohio Career Readiness Council (COCRC)
- Career Readiness Leaders Virtual Meetups
- OhioMeansJobs Columbus-Franklin County Job Center

Business Advisory Council plans for the 2023-2024 academic year to Coordinate Experiences:

- Registered Apprenticeship partners
- Post Secondary Partners
- Training providers
- Expansion of business partners



Resources

- ESC of Central Ohio: [Business Advisory Council](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Business Advisory Council | Parent & Community Awareness](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Educator Workforce Boot Camp](#)
- [Central Ohio Compact](#)
- Columbus State Community College: [Business](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Success Network](#)
- MORPC: [insight2050 Report](#)
- Ohio Department of Education: [Business Advisory Councils in Ohio Schools](#)
- Ohio Department of Education: [Ohio Business Advisory Councils – Next Steps](#)
- Ohio Laws & Rules: [Ohio Revised Code 3313.82: Business Advisory Councils](#)
- Ohio Laws & Rules: [Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4109 | Employment of Minors](#)
- [One Columbus](#)
- [Success Bound](#)
- [Regionomics](#)

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