

MARCH 1, 2025

# ANNUAL JOINT STATEMENT

TRI-COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL CONSORTIUM



---

*Business Advisory Council  
Plan Issued by the Tri-  
County Educational Service  
Center Governing Board and  
the Business Advisory  
Council representing  
Tri-County Educational  
Service Center and its  
member districts.*

---

## **Tri-County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council Consortium**

This consortium was formed in accordance with the provisions of Ohio law (Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.82) requiring every school district and educational service center to have a Business Advisory Council and to meet the requirements of Ohio law (Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.821) which directs the development of standards for the operation of Business Advisory Councils.



**2024 Business Advisory Councils**



## Tri-County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council Consortium

### Mission Statement:

The Business Advisory Council (BAC) is committed to building collaborative partnerships among education, business, and community. The BAC will advise school districts on curriculum and broadening exposure to the world of work in order for students to extend their learning beyond the classroom and gain the valuable essential skills needed for success after graduation.

### Purpose & Responsibilities:

The Business Advisory Council will support partnership between member schools and the business communities of Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne counties.

The partnership will:

- Advise** local districts on changes in the economy and job market as well as projected in-demand jobs in the region
- Advocate** for the employment skills most critical to business and industry and the development of curriculum to teach these skills
- Aid and support** local districts by offering suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses and educators



*Students from the Wayne County  
Schools Career Center speak to  
Envision Your Future Participants*

**"Choose a job you love, and you will never  
have to work a day in your life."  
- Confucius**

# BAC Annual Joint Statement

## Joint Statement – March 1, 2025

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.82 and 3313.821, the Tri-County ESC Business Advisory Council (BAC) and the Tri-County Educational Service Center (ESC) Governing Board submit this joint statement outlining how the council has fulfilled its responsibilities during the 2024-2025 school year.

## Business Advisory Council Structure & Leadership

The Tri-County ESC BAC continues to operate under its current leadership and structure, with no changes to membership or governance.

## Progress Toward 2024-2025 BAC Goals

The Tri-County ESC BAC set ambitious goals for the 2024-2025 school year, with a focus on:

- Developing Professional Skills for Future Careers
- Building Business-Education Partnerships
- Coordinating Career Exploration Experiences

## Accomplishments

### ✓ Envision Your Future (EYF) Program Growth:

- Participation in EYF has skyrocketed, increasing fivefold from 10 students during the 2023-2024 school year, to 50 students this year.
- Students have engaged in hands-on career exploration, including trade demonstrations led by the Wayne County Schools Career Center, question and answer session with panelists, and interest assessments.
- The program has successfully connected students with career pathways in employment, enrollment (college), and enlistment (military/law enforcement).

### ✓ Vital Connections & Teacher Bootcamps:

- Planning is underway for the Holmes County Teacher & Business Bootcamp to mirror successful initiatives in Wayne and Ashland counties.
- Vital Connections schedules have been set for Holmes & Wayne Counties, ensuring continued collaboration between educators and industry leaders.

### ✓ TransfrVR Career Exploration Initiative:

- The TransfrVR program has launched in elementary schools to introduce students to career pathways using immersive virtual reality experiences.
- Educators and student ambassadors from the Wayne County Schools Career Center have been trained to facilitate these experiences.

### ✓ NCWA Industry Sector Partnership Grant:

- The North Central Workforce Alliance (NCWA) received an Industry Sector Partnership Grant supporting key Tri-County ESC BAC initiatives.
- Funds will be utilized for partnerships with Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio and their Destination Careers Event

# BAC Annual Joint Statement

## Challenges & Barriers

### Parent Manufacturing Night – Low Attendance:

- The Parent Manufacturing Night aimed to connect families with career opportunities in local industries.
- While attendance at Parent Manufacturing Night was lower than expected, this highlighted the need for enhanced outreach and engagement strategies to connect families with workforce opportunities.
- The BAC will explore new outreach strategies to better engage parents and students in future events.

## New Partnerships & Adjustments

The Tri-County ESC Business Advisory Council continues to explore opportunities to enhance career readiness and workforce connections.

### BAC Grant Application – Expanding Career Readiness Resources

In early February, the ESC applied for a Business Advisory Council (BAC) Grant, seeking short-term funding to enhance career awareness, exploration, and planning initiatives. The proposal focuses on developing a comprehensive toolkit for school districts and businesses, outlining local career pathways and workforce opportunities. A primary goal is to expand post-graduation options for students outside of career-tech and traditional college-prep tracks. If awarded, these funds will support the expansion of pre-apprenticeship programs, work-based learning opportunities, and Ohio's Job Readiness Seal initiative, providing students with valuable workforce credentials. The ESC anticipates an update on the grant decision in the coming months.

### Expanding Pre-Apprenticeship Pathways

Recognizing the growing demand for alternative graduation pathways, the ESC is actively working with three additional school districts to develop pre-apprenticeship programs that will provide students with hands-on workforce training and industry-recognized credentials. These programs will align with state-approved graduation options, offering students a direct connection to high-demand career fields while earning real-world experience that enhances their employability. By expanding pre-apprenticeship pathways, the BAC aims to increase student participation in work-based learning and strengthen partnerships with local employers.



# BAC Annual Joint Statement

## New Partnerships & Adjustments (continued)

### ✓ Ashland University Partnership – Free Graduate Credit for Teacher Bootcamps

Through a strategic partnership with Ashland University, the ESC offers complimentary graduate credits to educators participating in the Vital Connections (Wayne/Holmes Counties) and 2 B Connected (Ashland County) teacher bootcamp programs this summer. These bootcamps provide educators with immersive experiences, including on-site business tours and hands-on learning with local employers. Participants engage in research, discussions, and analyses of current job market trends, integrating these insights into curriculum development. This initiative ensures that classroom instruction aligns with in-demand career skills, effectively bridging the gap between education and industry needs.

### ✓ Collaboration with North Central Workforce Alliance (NCWA) – \$100,000 Industry Sector Partnership Grant

The BAC played a pivotal role in assisting the North Central Workforce Alliance (NCWA) in securing a \$100,000 Industry Sector Partnership Grant from the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. This grant funds collaborations between businesses, educators, and community leaders to develop a skilled regional workforce through hands-on learning initiatives and industry-aligned programming. The BAC's programs and initiatives were integral to the grant proposal, highlighting successful models of workforce development. The awarded funds will support various programs, including Destination Career, a Junior Achievement initiative introducing students to career opportunities through hands-on experiences, and teacher bootcamps that immerse educators in local industries. This collaboration underscores the BAC's commitment to fostering a well-prepared workforce by uniting education and industry stakeholders.

These initiatives reflect the BAC's ongoing commitment to expanding career pathways, strengthening school-business collaboration, and ensuring that students and educators have the resources needed for success in a rapidly evolving workforce.



*Students at the Wayne County Career Expo received valuable workplace insights as Goodwill of Wayne County staff shared tips for success on the job.*

# BAC Annual Joint Statement

## Progress Toward 2024-2025 BAC Goals: 9/10 Accomplished

The Tri-County ESC Business Advisory Council set measurable goals for the 2024-2025 school year, focusing on career readiness, workforce partnerships, and hands-on career exploration. On a scale of 1-10, the BAC has successfully accomplished a 9, with strong progress in expanding student participation, enhancing business-education collaboration, and implementing innovative career exploration initiatives.

While the Envision Your Future Program, TransfrVR Career Exploration, and business-education partnerships have been significant successes, the low attendance at the Parent Manufacturing Night posed a challenge in fully engaging families in workforce development opportunities. Moving forward, the BAC will develop new outreach strategies to better connect parents and students with career-focused events.

Overall, the 2024-2025 BAC initiatives have made a substantial impact, and the council remains committed to expanding career pathways, strengthening workforce partnerships, and ensuring that both students and educators are equipped with the tools needed for success in a rapidly evolving job market.

**"Dreams don't work unless you do."  
– John C. Maxwell**

**Joint Statements of the Tri-County Educational Service Center  
Business Advisory Consortium can be found posted online at the  
Tri-County Educational Service Center Website.**

<https://www.youresc.k12.oh.us/business-advisory-council/>

# Events, Activities, & Programs

Tri-County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council member districts, business partners, and higher education partners work together throughout the school year for events, activities, and programs that support and uphold the mission and purpose of the Business Advisory Council.

Specifically, the Business Advisory Council school districts and business partners participated in in:

- Envision Your Future Student Program
- Wayne County Career Expo - Senior Career Exploration Event
- Holmes County - All in Day and Career Expo
- Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne Counties In-Demand Jobs Week Events
- Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne Counties Vital Connections Teacher Immersion Bootcamp
- North Central Workforce Alliance of Ohio 2 B.E. Connected Teacher Immersion Bootcamp
- Tri-County Educational Service Center VEX IQ STEAM Camp
- Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center Gloves & Goggles Event
- Wayne County Manufacturing Day Event
- Tri-County Educational Service Center and Buckeye Book Fair Young Author Event
- Teacher Professional Development Day (Industrial Arts, Physical Education, School Counselors, Family, and Consumer Sciences)
- North Central Workforce Alliance of Ohio Workforce Summit (Spring and Fall)
- Ohio Grade Card Training: College, Career, Military and Workforce Readiness
- chARTer Creative Arts Workshop (Orrville)
- Ashland County-West Holmes Career Fair
- Tri-County ESC Speech and Debate Competition
- Young Author Conference
- Ashland, Holmes and Wayne County Honors Band Performance
- Various Field Trips, Speakers, Career Days at Membership School Districts



*Hillsdale Local Schools  
Student displays k'nex build.*



*NCWA Fall Summit: Lisa Ryan speaks  
about improving employee retention*





*Educators tour Wil-San Registered Holstein Farm in Smithville, Ohio as part of Vital Connections: Wayne County.*



*Wooster City Schools students attend the chARTer event in Orrville, Ohio with their teacher.*



*WCSCC students compete at Business Professionals of America.*



*Students from local school districts attend the Wayne County Career Expo.*



*Sophomore students in Ashland County attend the "Sophomore Showcase" at the Ashland County - West Holmes Career Center.*



*Middle school students attend the Young Authors' Conference to learn from authors and illustrators.*



## BAC: In The News

Throughout the year, the Tri-County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council was highlighted in various newspapers and on social media outlets. Click the links below to read more:



[Envision Your Future Kick-Off Highlighted on Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce Instagram](#)



[JA Inspire To Hire Event: Wooster PD Instagram](#)



[JA Inspire Experiences Tremendous Growth](#)



[Holmes County: All In Day - Life Skills Camp](#)



[Tri-County ESC Career Connections Monthly Newsletter](#)



[AU Awarded \\$200,000 for Teacher Bootcamp Program](#)



[Tri-County ESC VEX IQ Robotics Summer Camp](#)



[Tri-County ESC Young Authors' Conference](#)



[NCWA Workforce Summit - Fall 2024](#)



[NCWA Awarded \\$100,000 Industry Sector Partnership Grant](#)

## Business Advisory Council Member Districts

District	District Primary Contact and Role	Primary Contact Email	District Secondary Contact and Role	Secondary Contact Email
Ashland City Schools	Steve Paramore	stparamo@goarrows.org	Linda McKibben	limckibb@goarrows.org
Chippewa Local Schools	Todd S. Osborn	todd.osborn@chippewaschools.com	Jodie Hughes	Jodie.Hughes@chippewaschools.com
Dalton Local School	Steve Watkins	swatkins@daltonlocal.org	Lisa Zona	lzona@daltonlocal.org
East Holmes Local Schools	Erik H. Beun	erik.beun@eastholmes.org	Jon Wilson	jon.wilson@eastholmes.org
Green Local Schools	Dean Frank	gren_dfrank@tccsa.net	Amanda Framstad	gren_aframstad@tccsa.net
Hillsdale Local Schools	Catherine Trevathan	ctrevathan@hillsdalelocalschools.org	Alyson Baker	hill_abaker@tccsa.net
Loudonville-Perrysville Exempted Village Schools	Jennifer Allerdig	lopr_jallerding@tccsa.net	Matt Henderson	lopr_mhenderson@tccsa.net
Mapleton Local Schools	Scott Smith	ssmith@imountie.org	Skip Fulton	sfulton@imountie.org
Northwestern Local Schools	Julie McCumber	nrws_mccumbe@tccsa.net	Tyler Keener	nrws_tkeener@tccsa.net
Norwayne Local Schools	Kevin Leatherman	keleatherman@norwayne.net	Ann Gerber	angerber@norwayne.net
Orrville City Schools	David Toth	orvl_dtoth@tccsa.net	Jay Bishop	orvl_jbishop@tccsa.net
Rittman Exempted Village Schools	Jon Ritchie	roc_ritchie@tccsa.net	Nick Evans	ritt_nevans@tccsa.net
Tri-County Educational Service Center	Beth Gaubatz	tesc_bgaubatz@tccsa.net	Brett Lanz	tesc_blanz@tccsa.net
Triway Local Schools	Nate Schindewolf	nschindewolf@triway.us	Joshua Stutz	jstutz@triway.us
Waynedale Local Schools	Jon Ritchie	soea_ritchie@tccsa.net	Holly Mastrine	soea_mastrin@tccsa.net
West Holmes Local Schools	Eric Jurkovic	ejurkovic@westholmes.org	Brian Baughman	bbaughman@westholmes.org
Wooster City Schools	Gabe Tudor	wstr_gtudor@woostercityschools.org	Brian Madigan	wstr_bmadigan@woostercityschools.org

## Business Advisory Council Advisors

Business Advisory Council Member	Business/Agency	Email	Industry
Cammy Thomas	American Augers	cthomas@americanaugers.com	Manufacturing
Amy Daubenspeck	Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce	cvb@ashlandoh.com	Chamber of Commerce
Cameo Carey	Ashland Area Economic Development   Grow Ashland	cameo@growashland.com	Workforce Development
Joe Reep	Ashland Comfort Control	joe.reep@ashlandcomfort.com	Architecture & Construction
Tammy Hendershot	Artiflex	THendershot@artiflexmfg.com	Manufacturing
Renee Alfred	Aultman Orrville Hospital	Renee.Alfred@aultman.com	Healthcare
Ben Uselton	BCU Electric	ben@bcuelectric.com	Architecture & Construction
Mindy Scurlock	Brethren Care Village	mscurlock@brethrencarevillage.org	Healthcare
Karen Alsop	Centerra Co-Op	kalsop@centerracoop.com	Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
Mayor Matt Miller	City of Ashland	Mayor@ashland-ohio.com	Government & Public Administration
Tiffany Gerber	Holmes County Chamber of Commerce	tiffany@holmescountychamber.com	Chamber of Commerce
Jess Crawford	Jarrett Logistics	jcrawford@gojarrett.com	Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics
Lori McCleese	Junior Achievement	lori.mccleese@ja.org	Community Partner
Erv Howard	North Central Workforce Alliance of Ohio	ehoward@ncwaofohio.org	Workforce Development
Barbie Lange	Next Step, Next Home	RealtorBarbieLange@gmail.com	Human Services
Josh Nolan	Orrville Area Boys and Girls Club	jnolan@oabgc.org	Community Partner



## Business Advisory Council Advisors (continued)

Business Advisory Council Member	Business/Agency	Email	Industry
Dan Franks	Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce	dan@orrvillechamber.com	Chamber of Commerce
Laura Neill	Ohio Light Opera	lneill@wooster.edu	Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications
Kim Dannemiller	O'Huddle	kdannemiller@ohuddle.org	Community Partner
Vince Tricomi	PFI Displays, Inc	vtricomi@pfidisplays.com	Manufacturing
Jim Pindell	Rayco/Morbark	jimp@raycomfg.com	Manufacturing
Denise Robinson	Schaeffler	denise.robinson@schaeffler.com	Manufacturing
John Schantz	Schantz Organ Company	j.schantz@schantzorgan.com	Manufacturing
Dan Moore	Simonson Construction	dmoore@simonsonconstruction.com	Architecture & Construction
Dennis Miller	Sutton Bank	millerlife1025@zoominternet.net	Finance
David Deemer	Transformation Network	david@transformationnetwork.org	Human Services
Lynn Moomaw	Wayne County Schools Career Center	lmoomaw@wcsc.org	Education & Training
Maribeth Burns	Wayne Economic Development Council	mburns@waynecountyedc.com	Workforce Development
Bill Besancon	Wil-San Holstein Farm	wilsan5693@yahoo.com	Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
Samira Zimmerly	Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce	szimmerly@woosterchamber.com	Chamber of Commerce
Tina Myers	Wooster Community Hospital	tmyers@wchosp.org	Healthcare
Scott Rotolo	Wooster Police Department	srotolo@woosteroh.com	Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security



*Junior Achievemnet: Inspire to Hire - Wayne County held in Wooster, Ohio.*

# Higher Education Partners

## The College of Wooster

APEX

Advising and Academic Resources Experiential Learning

## Hocking College

Amanda Lemke

Associate Dean, Workforce Development and Community Engagement

## Ohio State University ATI

Dr. Kristina Boone

Assistant Dean and Director

## Sinclair Community College

Todd K. Schilling

Pre-Apprenticeship Coordinator, Work-Based Learning

## The University of Akron Wayne College

Heather Howley

Director of Regional Campuses

Wendy Cundiff

Manager of Academic Advising



*Fine Arts College Fair held at Ashland High School. Over 90+ students attended from several school districts.*



# Meeting Schedule

*The following meetings are scheduled to take place involving the Business Advisory Council or significant factions of its membership.*

## **NORTH CENTRAL WORKFORCE ALLIANCE OF OHIO: EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

MARCH 6, 2024  
JUNE 12, 2024  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2024  
DECEMBER 4, 2024  
MARCH 5, 2025  
JUNE 5, 2025

## **TRI-COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER: SUPERINTENDENT MEETINGS**

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024  
OCTOBER 21, 2024  
NOVEMBER 22, 2024  
JANUARY 24, 2025  
FEBRUARY 28, 2025  
MARCH 21, 2025  
APRIL 11, 2025  
JUNE 6, 2025

## **TRI-COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER: GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS**

JULY 8, 2024  
AUGUST 12, 2024  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024  
OCTOBER 14, 2024  
NOVEMBER 4, 2024  
DECEMBER 9, 2024  
JANUARY 13, 2025  
FEBRUARY 10, 2025  
MARCH 10, 2025  
APRIL 14, 2025  
MAY 12, 2025  
JUNE 9, 2025



*Students work on their VEX IQ Robots with the goal of navigating the competition course with the fastest time.*



*Educators visited the Ashland Fire Department as part of the 2 BE Connected Program*