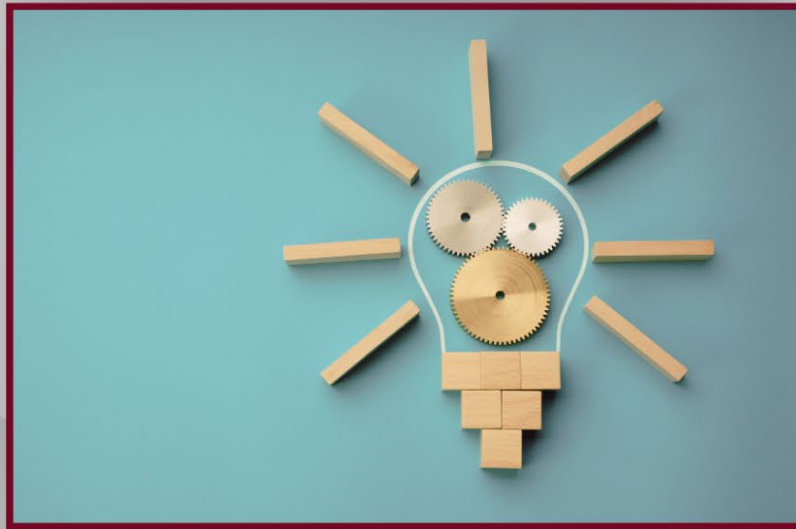




2024 - 2025

BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

School District Members

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 Allerding	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
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Tri-County Educational Service Center	Jon Ritchie Brett Lanz	tesc_ritchie@tccsa.net tesc_blanz@tccsa.net	Beth Gaubatz	tesc_bgaubatz@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



Tri-County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council Consortium

Council Members

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
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
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John Schantz	Schantz Organ Company	j.schantz@schantzorgan.com	Manufacturing
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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

Schedule of Meetings

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



Business Advisory Council Mission and Vision for the 2024-2025 School Year

The Tri-County Educational Service Center (ESC) BAC Consortium is committed to enhancing collaboration between education, business, and the community. Our mission is to guide students towards career readiness by offering insights into the local economy, emerging industries, and essential employability skills. The Tri-County ESC BAC Consortium is dedicated to preparing students for future careers by developing professional skills, building strong partnerships, and coordinating immersive experiences. We will focus on expanding career exploration programs, engaging parents in new workforce opportunities, and fostering relationships between educators and local industries.

DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL SKILLS FOR FUTURE CAREERS

The Tri-County ESC BAC plans to **Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers** for the 2024-2025 school year.

Initiative 1: Expansion of the “Envision Your Future Program”
<p><i>Describe in detail the plan associated with implementing this quality practice. What collaborative action steps are required to facilitate achieving outcomes?</i></p> <p>The <i>Envision Your Future</i> (EYF) program will expand to include 8th graders in addition to 9th and 10th graders across Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne Counties. The program is designed to help students become aware of in-demand jobs and career pathways, learn about their interests and aptitudes, gain leadership skills, and prepare for post-high school success. This comprehensive career exploration initiative includes hands-on experiences, soft skills development, and exposure to various professional pathways through interactive sessions.</p>
<p><i>List all participating school districts. What percentage of students within the BAC will be impacted by this initiative?</i></p> <p>The program is open to all BAC member districts in Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne County. Each district will be offered 10 spots for students to participate.</p>
<p><i>List all businesses involved.</i></p> <p>Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce, Orrville Area Boys and Girls Club, Wayne County Schools Career Center, Goodwill of Wayne and Holmes Counties, Heartland Education Foundation, Tri-County Educational Service Center, Spherion Ohio, Various Community Leaders, Apple Creek Banking Company</p>
<p><i>List all related timelines for each phase of plan development and associated deadlines.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Development: July - September 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Choose Meeting Dates ○ Plan Learning Targets and Presenters/Facilitators ○ Secure sponsorships • Student Recruitment: September - October 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration Information and Promotional Flyer distribution ○ Student Sign Ups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate with school counselors to identify and enroll eligible students



- Sessions Conducted: October 2024 - February 2025
- Program Evaluation: March - May 2025

List the resources needed for implementation (funding, manpower, tools, for example).

Funding/sponsorships for materials (Apple Creek Bank and Heartland Education Association, secure venue for events (donated by Orrville Area Boys and Girls Club), virtual reality technology for enhanced learning experiences (grant funded through Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Schools Career Center), Chromebooks for students (OABGC), learning targets and objectives for student outcomes (developed by Tri-County ESC), management of marketing (Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce), student registration (Tri-County Educational Service Center)

Identify any challenges that may impact this plan. How will the business advisory council overcome these challenges?

Scheduling across multiple districts; mitigated by coordinating session dates with district calendars and providing virtual participation options if needed.

Identify existing [data](#) and set measurable outcomes to achieve plan. If data is unavailable, identify steps being taken to acquire this data.

The Envision Your Future Program in 2023-2024 was considered a pilot program. Two school districts participated (Orrville City Schools and Kingsway Christian School). Ten students (all 10th graders) participated.

Intended Outcomes for 2024-2025 Envision Your Future Program:

- Double student participants
- Engagement of at least 75% of school districts
- Increase in career awareness and professional skill development for students
 - As measured by pre and post assessments
- Improved student readiness for high school graduation and career planning
 - As measured by pre and post assessment

How does this initiative help to develop relevant in-demand skills for students.

The *Envision Your Future* (EYF) program is specifically designed to bridge the gap for students who are uncertain about what they want to do after they graduate and the vast opportunities available to them. Through a series of targeted sessions, the program equips students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be better prepared to make plans for their future careers.

1. **Career Awareness and Exploration:**

Students gain exposure to a variety of career pathways, including the “Three E’s: Employment, Education, Enlistment”. By engaging in hands-on activities and interacting with professionals, students learn about the skills required for future success, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and digital literacy. They will be exposed to various tools for career exploration and their interests.

2. **Soft Skills Development:**

The program emphasizes essential soft skills, including communication, teamwork, and adaptability. These skills are cultivated through structured activities such as mock interviews, resume writing examples, and professional networking opportunities, preparing students to excel in both educational and professional settings.

3. **Adaptability and Lifelong Learning:**

By exploring multiple post-secondary options—whether it be employment, education, or enlistment—students learn to evaluate and adapt their career plans based on their interests and the changing job market. This adaptability is crucial in a world where industries and job roles are constantly evolving.

4. **Leadership and Initiative:**

Through participation in this group setting, students develop leadership qualities and a proactive mindset. They are encouraged to take initiative, set personal goals, and work towards achieving them, fostering a strong sense of responsibility and self-efficacy.



How does this initiative impact students with disabilities? Please refer to the [State Systemic Improvement Plan](#).

The *Envision Your Future* program is designed to support each student’s unique needs by providing individualized learning experiences. Sessions are tailored to help students explore their interests and career paths at their own pace. For students with learning differences, we ensure accommodations such as modified materials, assistive technology, and additional support are available. This personalized approach helps all students, including those with disabilities, fully participate and benefit from the program’s activities.

Initiative 2: Stark State College Student-Led Project-Based Learning Program

Describe in detail the plan associated with implementing this quality practice. What collaborative action steps are required to facilitate achieving outcomes?

The *Stark State College Initiative* will engage high school students from across the Tri-County ESC region in a student-led, project-based learning program designed to develop critical professional skills such as adaptability, creative reasoning, critical thinking, leadership, problem-solving, teamwork, and public speaking. This initiative will include field trips to Stark State College and, when available, local business partners to provide students with hands-on experiences and insights into real-world applications of these skills.

List all participating school districts. What percentage of students within the BAC will be impacted by this initiative?

As of September 23rd, 2024 at the time of plan submission the following schools from the Tri-County ESC BAC Consortium will be participating in the program:

- Orrville High School
- Loudonville High School
- Waynedale High School

List all businesses involved.

All business members from the North Central Workforce Alliance of Ohio have been invited to participate as judges to provide thoughtful feedback and perspective.

List all related timelines for each phase of plan development and associated deadlines.

The program, implemented by Stark State College staff, typically takes 5 hours for students to complete. Field trips are coordinated to Stark State College, and when available, a field trip to a local business partner.

List the resources needed for implementation (funding, manpower, tools, for example).

Chaperones are needed to accompany students on a field trip to Stark State College and, sometimes, to a local industry partner.

Identify any challenges that may impact this plan. How will the business advisory council overcome these challenges?

The current program is grant-funded, and sustainability may be impacted after August 2025 if additional funding is not secured. Efforts are underway to apply for a renewal grant.

Identify existing [data](#) and set measurable outcomes to achieve plan. If data is unavailable, identify steps being taken to acquire this data.

The program’s Evaluation Form asks students if they learned anything about professional skills including Business Etiquette, Public Speaking, Adaptability, Creative Reasoning, Teamwork, and more. The data can be shared with the BAC.



BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

The Tri-County ESC BAC plans council plans to **Build Partnerships** for the for the 2024-2025 school year.

Initiative 1: Parent Open House: Manufacturing Tours

Describe in detail the plan associated with implementing this quality practice. What collaborative action steps are required to facilitate achieving outcomes?

In collaboration with the Wayne Economic Development Council and local manufacturers, create a two-night open house event for parents to tour manufacturing facilities and learn about career opportunities for their children.

List all school districts participating. What percentage of students within the BAC will be impacted by this initiative.

This event will be open to all BAC member districts. Since this is the inaugural event, it is difficult to predict the percentage of students who will engage in this initiative. However, the team hopes to have 100% of Wayne County School Districts represented, and at least 20-30% of Ashland and Holmes County Districts represented.

List all businesses involved.

1. **Daisy:** Daisy is a leading manufacturer of precision tooling and components, specializing in high-quality custom solutions for various industries, including automotive and aerospace.
2. **BCI (Buckeye Container Inc.):** BCI is a premier packaging solutions provider, offering custom corrugated packaging, displays, and specialty products that serve a wide range of industries from manufacturing to retail.
3. **Wooster Brush:** Wooster Brush is one of the oldest and most respected manufacturers of high-quality painting tools, including brushes, rollers, and accessories, catering to both professional and DIY markets.
4. **Moog:** Moog is a global designer and manufacturer of precision control components and systems, supporting industries such as aerospace, defense, and industrial automation.
5. **Schaeffler:** Schaeffler is a leading global supplier of automotive and industrial components, specializing in precision bearings and systems for motion and mobility.
6. **Akron Brass:** Akron Brass is a top manufacturer of innovative firefighting and emergency response equipment, providing high-quality nozzles, monitors, and vehicle-mounted solutions to protect people and property

List all related timelines for each phase of plan development and associated deadlines.

- Planning: April - August 2024
- Promotion: September - October 2024
- Event: October 2024
- Follow-up: November 2024

List the resources needed for implementation (funding, manpower, tools, for example).

1. **Funding:** Financial support for event logistics, including venue rentals, transportation, promotional materials, and refreshments for attendees.
2. **Staffing and Coordination:** Dedicated personnel to manage event planning, communication with participating businesses, scheduling, and on-site support during the event.
3. **Marketing and Outreach Materials:** Professionally designed flyers, brochures, and digital media campaigns to effectively promote the event to parents and the community, highlighting the benefits and opportunities of participating.

Identify any challenges that may impact this plan. How will the business advisory council overcome these challenges?

The biggest barrier for this event is the unknown. A challenge will be ensuring adequate parent attendance; addressed by leveraging school and community channels for event promotion.



Initiative 1: Parent Open House: Manufacturing Tours

Identify [existing data](#) and set measurable outcomes to achieve plan. If data is unavailable, identify steps being taken to acquire this data.

Since this is an inaugural event, it is challenging to provide specific data and measurable outcomes at this stage. However, Wayne County, Ohio, has a robust manufacturing sector that significantly contributes to the local economy. The manufacturing industry is one of the largest employers in the county, providing over 25% of all jobs. With companies like Schaeffler, Moog, Wooster Brush, and Akron Brass, the demand for skilled workers is high, and there are numerous in-demand jobs available in fields such as advanced manufacturing, automation, and engineering. This event aims to connect families with these opportunities, showcasing the career potential in this vital industry.

How does this initiative help to develop relevant in-demand skills for students and educators.

This initiative plays a critical role in bridging the gap between students and the local manufacturing industry by directly engaging parents in the career exploration process. When parents have a deeper understanding of the opportunities available in manufacturing, including the skills required and the career pathways, they are better equipped to guide their children in making informed decisions about their future.

By participating in the open house and manufacturing tours, parents gain firsthand knowledge of the industry’s demands, such as technical expertise, problem-solving, and innovation. This empowers them to support their children in exploring these careers and assessing whether their interests and aptitudes align with the roles available. Additionally, parents can help their children identify the necessary educational pathways and skill-building opportunities to prepare for these in-demand jobs.

Involving parents in this process not only raises awareness about lucrative and stable career options in manufacturing but also helps break down misconceptions about the industry. As a result, students are more likely to consider these careers seriously and pursue relevant skills in areas like advanced manufacturing, robotics, and engineering. This informed guidance from parents ensures that students are making strategic decisions that align with both their personal goals and the needs of the local job market.

How does this initiative impact students with disabilities? Please refer to the [State Systemic Improvement Plan](#).

This initiative is designed to be inclusive and accessible, ensuring that students with disabilities and their families can fully participate and benefit. By providing parents with detailed information about the diverse career opportunities in manufacturing, including roles that accommodate various abilities and skill sets, the initiative helps families identify pathways that are a good fit for their child’s unique strengths and interests. This knowledge empowers parents to advocate effectively for their child’s career goals and helps students with disabilities envision a successful future in an industry that values their contributions.

Initiative 2: New Holmes County Teacher and Business Bootcamp

Describe in detail the plan associated with implementing this quality practice. What collaborative action steps are required to facilitate achieving outcomes?

Establish a new teacher and business tour (bootcamp) in Holmes County, modeled after the successful *Vital Connections* and *2 B.E. Connected* programs in Wayne and Ashland Counties. The goal is to immerse educators in the local industry to better understand job market demands and career pathways for students. The bootcamp will tentatively be scheduled to take place in June of 2025.

List all participating school districts. What percentage of students within the BAC will be impacted by this initiative?

The program is open to all BAC member districts in Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne County. Business tours will be focused on employers located in Holmes County.



List all businesses involved.

The planning team will be meeting in September of 2024 and will continue to meet for the event facilitation throughout the 2024-2025 school year. Businesses that will participate will be identified by the planning team and contacted in December 2024-January 2025.

List all related timelines for each phase of plan development and associated deadlines.

- Initial Planning and Collaboration Meeting: September 2024
- Business Identification and Recruitment: November 2024 – January 2025
- Development of Bootcamp Schedule: January – February 2025
- Marketing Materials Creation and Distribution: February – March 2025
- Teacher Enrollment: April 2025
- Bootcamp Implementation: June 2025
- Evaluation: June 2025

List the resources needed for implementation (funding, manpower, tools, for example).

Transportation for the tours, volunteers to attend the tours and coordinate teachers, open session speakers, closing session speakers, lunches provided for participants, organize and facilitate professional development credit for participating educators

Identify any challenges that may impact this plan. How will the business advisory council overcome these challenges?

Recruitment of businesses willing to participate, overcome by working with Holmes County Chamber of Commerce and Holmes County Economic Development Council to identify business that would be a good fit; Transportation for teachers. Overcome by partnering with local school district willing to provide buses

Identify existing data and set measurable outcomes to achieve plan. If data is unavailable, identify steps being taken to acquire this data.

Past Participation and Impact:

Over the past eight years, all Tri-County ESC districts have actively engaged in our *Vital Connections* and *2 B.E. Connected* teacher bootcamps, with more than 200 educators participating in these professional development opportunities. These programs have successfully strengthened the relationship between schools and local businesses, enhancing educators' understanding of in-demand skills and career pathways.

Goals for the New Holmes County Program:

1. **Teacher Participation Goal:**
 - Engage at least 25 teachers from local school districts in the inaugural bootcamp
2. **District and Business Engagement Goal:**
 - Establish partnerships with at least 8 local businesses to host tours and workshops, with a focus on industries like manufacturing, agriculture, and healthcare that are vital to the county's economy.
 - Develop a collaborative network that includes participation from all Holmes County districts, ensuring that educators are exposed to a diverse range of career pathways and local employment opportunities for their students.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased teacher understanding of local industry needs, leading to more effective integration of career-related skills in classroom instruction.
- Stronger district-business partnerships that result in ongoing collaboration, including guest speakers, internships, and student projects aligned with local workforce demands.

How does this initiative help to develop relevant in-demand skills for educators.

The new Holmes County teacher bootcamp will provide educators with direct exposure to the skills and competencies most valued by local employers. By participating in immersive business tours and hands-on workshops, teachers will gain



first-hand insights into the specific technical and soft skills needed in high-demand fields like manufacturing, agriculture, and healthcare.

Through these experiences, educators will:

1. **Understand Workforce Expectations:** Teachers will see how skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and adaptability are applied in real-world settings. This understanding will help them better align classroom instruction with the expectations of local industries.
2. **Integrate Industry Standards into Curriculum:** Educators will learn how to incorporate industry-relevant skills, such as digital literacy and project management, into their teaching practices, preparing students for the evolving job market.
3. **Bridge Classroom Learning with Career Pathways:** By connecting with business leaders, teachers will be equipped to guide students more effectively in exploring career pathways and making informed decisions about their future.

This practical knowledge will empower teachers to create more relevant, engaging lessons that not only meet academic standards but also prepare students for success in today's workforce.

How does this initiative impact students with disabilities? Please refer to the [State Systemic Improvement Plan](#).

Teacher training will include strategies for integrating students with disabilities into career readiness programs.

COORDINATE EXPERIENCES

The Tri-County ESC BAC plans **Coordinate Experiences** for the 2024-2025 school year.

Initiative 1: Elementary Career Exploration with TransfrVR

Describe in detail the plan associated with implementing this quality practice. What collaborative action steps are required to facilitate achieving outcomes?

TransfrVR headsets provide immersive, hands-on virtual reality experiences that allow students to explore various career paths in industries like manufacturing, healthcare, and technology. The *TransfrVR Career Exploration Program* offers interactive modules where students can engage in realistic job simulations, helping them gain a deeper understanding of the skills required and the opportunities available in these fields. This innovative approach makes career exploration accessible and engaging, inspiring students to consider new possibilities for their futures.

The implementation of TransfrVR virtual reality headsets will provide an innovative approach to career exploration for upper elementary students, specifically targeting grades 4-6. This initiative will be conducted in collaboration with the Wayne County Schools Career Center, utilizing their student ambassadors to help facilitate the program. Through interactive VR modules, students will explore various careers in industries such as manufacturing, healthcare, and IT. The goal is to introduce students to diverse career pathways early on, helping them connect classroom learning with real-world applications and inspiring future career interests.

The Wayne County Schools Career Center student ambassadors will play a crucial role in guiding younger students through the VR experiences, offering insights from their own educational and career pathways. This peer-led model not only enhances the learning experience for elementary students but also provides valuable leadership and mentoring opportunities for the student ambassadors.

List all school districts participating. What percentage of students within the BAC will be impacted by this initiative.

This program will be available to Tri-County ESC BAC member districts. There are currently approximately 2,000 upper elementary students in these districts. Since this is the inaugural year of the program, it is challenging to say how many students/elementaries will be involved, however initially the focus will be elementary schools in Wayne County with further outreach following that.



Initiative 1: Elementary Career Exploration with TransfrVR

List all businesses involved.

Tri-County Educational Service Center, Wayne County Schools Career Center, and TransfrVR. Additional follow up activities may be scheduled with local businesses for visits or tours with participating elementary schools as the program evolves.

List all related timelines for each phase of plan development and associated deadlines.

- Educator and Ambassador Training: December 2024
- Program Launch: January 2025
- Program Continues: February 2025 to November 2025
- Evaluation: November – December 2025

List the resources needed for implementation (funding, manpower, tools, for example).

Funding for VR headsets, software, technical support, training materials for educators and student ambassadors, and transportation for ambassadors if needed.

Identify any challenges that may impact this plan. How will the business advisory council overcome these challenges?

Ensuring technical proficiency and comfort with VR technology among educators and student ambassadors; addressed by providing comprehensive training and ongoing support.

Scheduling sessions at local elementary schools due to time constraints; addressed by providing a flexible schedule and attempting to work with several classrooms at each elementary school.

Identify existing data and set measurable outcomes to achieve plan. If data is unavailable, identify steps being taken to acquire this data.

- Increased engagement and career awareness among upper elementary students.
- Enhanced leadership and mentoring skills for Wayne County Schools Career Center student ambassadors.
- Positive feedback from participants, fostering a scalable model for future career exploration initiatives.

How does this initiative help to develop relevant in-demand skills for students and educators.

The TransfrVR headsets provide an engaging and interactive way for elementary students to explore in-demand careers by immersing them in realistic job environments. Through virtual simulations, students can experience roles in fields like healthcare, manufacturing, and technology, allowing them to "try out" different careers in a safe and supportive setting. This hands-on approach helps young learners connect classroom concepts to real-world applications, understand the skills required for various professions, and begin identifying their own interests and strengths. By exposing students to these career pathways early on, the program encourages them to think about their future aspirations and the steps needed to achieve them.

How does this initiative impact students with disabilities? Please refer to the [State Systemic Improvement Plan](#).

VR experiences will include accessibility features such as closed captions, adjustable settings, and sensory-friendly content, ensuring that all students can participate fully.



Additional Information:

To view the Tri-County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Page Visit:

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

The current business advisory council plan is located here along with all business advisory council joint statements (posted on March 1st annually).