

2025-2026 Business Advisory Council Plan

Stark County Educational Service Center

1. Name of business advisory council: Stark County Educational Service Center

2. Identify the structure of the business advisory council (school district, educational service center, joint vocational school district, or independent collaborative): Educational Service Center

3. JobsOhio Region in which business advisory council operates: Northeast Ohio Region

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4. List business advisory council members (business, higher education, and community partners, for example). List industries represented on the business advisory council based on Ohio's Top Jobs classification. Include workforce boards, economic development, higher education, and community partners.

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5. Schedule of Meetings

Planning meetings for the 2025-2026 school year include:

Date	Host Location	Topic
August 26, 2025	Employers Health	Stark Ed. Partnership Career Connected Learning/ Outcomes of Educator Bootcamp
September 23, 2025	Akron Canton Airport	Airport/Breeze Updates/ Metrics
October 28, 2025	Walsh	Blouin Scholars & Habitat for Humanity Partnership Metrics Update
November 25, 2025	Aultman College	Nursing Program & Community Partner Update on Bootcamp Planning
December	No Meeting	No Meeting
January 23, 2026	Kent State	Core Program & Community Partner Presentation
February 24, 2026	Stark State	Legislative Panel Update

		Stark State Core Program & Partner Presentation
March 24, 2026	University of MU	Core Program & Community Partner Presentation
April 28, 2026	Malone University	Core Program & Community Partner Presentation Final Planning Update on 2026 Educator Bootcamp
May 26, 2026	Bitdeer (Crypto Mining Company)	Debrief the year/Major Events for 2026-27 Bitdeer Company Presentation

Stark County Educational Service Center Vision and Mission

- A. Vision: Businesses and Education partnering will help foster a well-prepared workforce that contributes to the economic development and improved quality of life throughout the Stark County area.
- B. Mission: To advise, support and empower Stark County area educators in delivering the instruction and experiences students need to develop relevant, in-demand employment skills as part of their academic and technical preparation for college, careers and/or military service.

Quality Practice 1: Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers

Initiative 1: Canton Regional Chamber Educator Bootcamp

Describe, in detail, the plan associated with implementing Professional Skills for Future Skills. From June 3-5, 2025, The Canton Regional Chamber in Conjunction with the Stark County Educational Service Center's Business Advisory Council sponsored the first annual educator bootcamp for 31 middle and high school educators from around the county. The 3-day experience featured business engagement in 4 high-demand industries in Stark County (Healthcare, Distribution and Logistics, Trades, and Manufacturing). Educators took tours of 8 organizations (Aultman Hospital, Aultman College, MK Morse, Ohio Gratings, Sheet Metal Workers Local 33, Beaver Excavating, Kenen Advantage Group and Tractor Supply Distribution Center) and engaged in hands-on activities intended to demonstrate transferable skills that educators could help impart in youth as they move towards employability. Each educator was also provided information in 1-page documents about the organizations that included careers, career pathways and/or transferable skills. The experience was facilitated by Stark Education Partnership, The University of Mount Union provided FREE graduate credit to all 31 individuals who completed and submitted a lesson plan/ unit outlining the incorporation of career connections AND transferable skills into their course curriculum.

List all participating school districts: Alliance City Schools, Lake Local Schools Louisville City Schools, Fairless Local Schools, Heritage Christian School, Perry Local Schools, Tuslaw Local Schools, Canton City Schools, Jackson Local Schools, and Marlington Local Schools

What percentage of students within the business advisory council will be impacted by this initiative? 10/22 Districts participating and touching 31 middle and high school educators. The % of students directly impacted is uncertain, but the impact is significant.

List all businesses and specify industries involved:

Aultman Hospital (Canton) and Aultman College (Healthcare)

MK Morse and Ohio Gratings (Manufacturing)

Sheet Metal Workers Local 33 and Beaver Excavating (Trades & STEM)

Kenen Advantage Group and Tractor Supply Distribution Center (Distribution and Logistics)

What role does the business play in implementation?

All businesses hosted an educational session and tour of the facility. The educational session was specifically designed to help educators be able to understand the companies, careers, and necessary skills needed to succeed in that organization, so they could better inform their students of opportunities in the community. Therefore, the businesses selected the skill and designed the coordinating activity. Teachers have the most access to our youth, so informing them of opportunities increases the chance that conversations that guide our young people to find careers in which they will thrive and when possible, stay in Stark County for college and career.

How does this initiative help support or teach relevant, in-demand technical and professional skills for students and educators? All businesses selected are top employers within their sector, and 4 high demand sectors in the county were targeted. All businesses provided an educational session that included discussion of skills generally and transferable skills and were provided with supporting documents that re-affirmed the information. Teachers were then assigned a project to create a lesson plan implementing career connections that also demonstrates the transference of soft or hard skills highlighted by the businesses to their students. To assure educators had made relevant connections between their experience and use in their classrooms, the assigned project was graded by an ESC staff member and affirmed for graduate credit by the University of Mount Union.

What skills gap or talent pipeline challenge does this initiative address to help your area/region? Most industry partners in Stark County struggle to fill employment, but the healthcare and manufacturing industries are particularly stressed. This is one facet of a multi-tiered plan to develop the “long game” in workforce development by informing and encouraging our youth about local opportunities for quality careers in the county.

What data supports the identified skill gap or pipeline challenge?

One recurring theme of conversation within the BAC among business partners and those in the larger community is lack of soft/professional skills in younger employees. The group decided to engage the educator bootcamp to respond to the “gap” in these types of skills. By helping educators understand the problem in the workplace, they can re-enforce skill acquisition in the classroom.

The following chart of data is from Lightcast Q3 2025 Data Set | lightcast.io. It was supplied by the Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Partnership, who is a participating BAC member to indicate the top careers as well as the duration job listings in those categories typically remain open until filled. Our three most plentiful industry sectors, healthcare, manufacturing and distribution and logistics all have listings in this data

indicating a pipeline challenge for the community to provide enough individuals with adequate skills to succeed in the workplace.

Top Industries

Job	Total/Unique Job Openings	Days Listed Before Filled
Registered Nurses	1,522 / 317	24 days
State Tested Nursing Assistants	791 / 257	27 days
Licensed Practical Nurses	1,038 / 239	22 days
CDL-A Truck Drivers	600 / 199	18 days
Direct Support Professionals	265 / 130	24 days
Physical Therapists	249 / 121	22 days
Medical Assistants	301 / 109	32 days
Staff Nurses	349 / 87	25 days
Patient Care Technicians	540 / 84	21 days
Home Health Aides	175 / 75	20 days
Home Health Care Services	9,660 / 2,509	23 days
Offices of Physicians		
(except Mental Health Specialists)	6,169 / 1,780	25 days
Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facs)	4,078 / 1,378	25 days
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	2,864 / 1,311	20 days
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Truckload	1,127 / 415	31 days
Other Snack Food Manufacturing	1,455 / 408	29 days
Child Care Services	922 / 309	25 days
Ornamental and Architectural Metal Work		
Manufacturing	1,183 / 290	26 days
Offices of Dentists	766 / 288	25 days
Child and Youth Services	697 / 287	34 days

How does this initiative impact students with disabilities?

Most of the participating educators also support students with disabilities and two participants are intervention specialists. While the theme of employing disabled individuals was not a specific focus, some of the wide variety of careers represented potential options for many of these young people. Representing this population will be a consideration in the future.

**Note: The BAC plans to facilitate another educator bootcamp in the summer of 2026. Healthcare and Manufacturing Sectors will remain engaged, but the hope is to also represent hospitality and one other high demand sector.*

Quality Practice: Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers

Initiative: Louisville City Schools Educator Bootcamp supported by Stark Education Partnership

Describe in detail the plan associated with implementing this quality practice.

An educator Bootcamp facilitated by Stark Education Partnership and engaged by all 156 K-12 Louisville City Schools educators occurred on August 14th, 2025. Educators travelled to 12 businesses for tours and career pathway discussions. Each educator toured 2-3 sites and then took that information back to their TBT to share. All educators learned about all business entities. Participating businesses included Early Childhood Resource Center, Stark Parks, Ohio Gratings, MAC Trailer, The City of Canton, Canton Public Health, Canton Police Department, Deerfield Ag Services, Aultman Alliance Hospital, Altercare, and Beaver Excavating.

List all participating school districts: Louisville City Schools

What percentage of students within the business advisory council will be impacted by this initiative? 5%

List all businesses and specify industries involved.

Altercare and Aultman Alliance Hospital (Healthcare)

Ohio Gratings and MAC Trailer (Manufacturing)

Beaver Excavating (Trades & STEM)

Early Childhood Resource Center (Education/Human Services)

Stark Parks and Deerfield Ag Services (Agriculture and Natural Resources)

The City of Canton, Canton Public Health, Canton Police Department (Government/ Health and Human Services)

What role does the business play in implementation?

All businesses hosted an educational session and tour of the facility. The educational session was specifically designed to help educators be able to understand the company, careers, and necessary skills needed to succeed in that organization, so they could better inform their students of opportunities in the community.

How does this initiative help develop relevant, in-demand skills for students and educators?

Teachers have the most access to our youth, so informing them of opportunities increases the chance that conversations that guide our young people. The hope is that as educators know the skills and opportunities that kids need, they will be valuable resources in training students in soft skills and guiding them toward local careers in which they will thrive.

All businesses selected are top employers within their sector, and numerous sectors in the county were chosen to provide a good cross section of careers available. All businesses provided an educational session that included discussion of skills generally and transferable skills and were provided with supporting documents that re-affirmed the information. The educators were then asked to go back to their TBTS to share knowledge learned and consider ways to incorporate it into their curriculum.

What skills gap or talent pipeline challenge does this initiative address to help your area/region?

Nearly all conversations with Stark County Employers center on the “soft skills” gap. Our youth struggle to arrive on time, communicate effectively, and show strong work ethic. These are all skills that can be trained and reinforced in the classroom.

Stark County’s corporate structure has a diverse array of opportunities many of which are very difficult to fill, much as an entire district of young people will choose many different directions for careers. By educating our teachers and students about the companies, careers and skills needed, our BAC is taking the workforce development “long-game” seriously.

What data supports the identified skill gap or pipeline challenge?

One recurring theme of conversation within the BAC among business partners and those in the larger community is lack of soft/professional skills in younger employees. The group decided to engage the educator bootcamp to respond to the “gap” in these types of skills. By helping educators understand the problem in the workplace, they can re-inforce skill acquisition in the classroom.

According to Lightcast Q3 2025 Data supplied by The Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board these soft skills are some of the most common skills represented in job postings. The following chart provided in that data provides interesting information.

Top Common Skills

Communication	4,904	30% (of postings)
Management	2,260	14%
Customer Service	2,251	14%
Leadership	2,123	13%
Operations	2,064	13%
Coordinating	1,874	12%
Detail Oriented	1,617	10%
Planning	1,390	9%

Computer Literacy	1,385	9%
Problem Solving	1,354	8%

How does this initiative impact students with disabilities?

As Louisville sent ALL k-12 staff on these tours, intervention specialists as well as traditional teachers who provide inclusive instruction were provided with opportunities to learn how to support employability skills in their students and ask questions about potential career pathways that might be appropriate.

Quality Practice 2: Build Partnerships

Note: In Stark County, we have several independent, non-profit organizations that work independently and in partnership to facilitate programming for students. These organizations, including Stark Education Partnership, Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership, and Tom Tod Ideas are actively engaged in the Business Advisory Council and its activities, but they also offer experiences more broadly that expand the quality and access of experiences to Stark County youth as well as the capacity to engage more business and community partners in their specific offerings. Initiatives 1 and 2 demonstrate two examples of coordinated work.

Initiative 1: Stark Career Pathways Initiative (Career Connected Learning)

Describe in detail how the business advisory council plans to strengthen and expand business and industry representation and partnerships. Describe how the council identifies new industry and business partners to address the talent pipeline business skills gap. The Stark Career Pathways Initiative is led by BAC member and facilitator organization, Stark Education Partnership (SEP). SEP began the initiative in the fall of 2022 with in initial 4 Stark County School districts and one private middle school. In that year, it obtained 30 business partnerships to assist in programming. The career connected learning program is built on the foundation of helping middle and high school students understand their aptitudes and interests as they relate to careers. This is done by utilizing a tool called YouScience. Partner districts agree to assess 1 grade band of middle school with the YS Snapshot program and then all freshman students with the “adult” Discovery version. SEP asks districts to adhere to a 90% fidelity rate on testing whenever possible. Currently the total rate of completion for 9th graders sits at 79.5%. In some cases, ELL students and those with disabilities cannot assess and are supported in career connected learning by other means. Additionally, implementation plans at our urban districts has posed some challenges due to chronic absenteeism.

Now entering the 4th year of implementation. SEP helps 12 school districts and one private middle school implement the assessment, assist students in career planning, and engage in career connected learning experiences. To date 8,516 students have taken the YouScience assessment. The results of the aptitude and interest survey are then used as a tool to facilitate career connected learning both in

schools and at business sites. Students are sent to engage with employers and careers that represent their best matches. Rather than sending “Ms. Smith’s class” on a field trip to Ohio Gratings, we can now send the 30 children who have natural aptitude and/or interest on that trip, making the possibility of a positive connection far greater. Currently, 84 business and university partners, many of them members of the BAC participate in offering experiences to students. These experiences range from Lunch & Learns, mock interviews, and career fairs in schools to career shadowing, internship, and full-time employment opportunities upon graduation at partner’s organizations. Since inception, 563 separate experiences have been provided by participating partners. In 2024-25 alone, 3,557 unique Stark County students participated in some type of career-connected learning experience.

How will the council draw feedback from business and industry to inform decision making?

SEP’s Board of Directors and its President’s Advisory Council includes members of the BAC, Stark County Community Foundation, Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership, Stark County Economic Development Board, Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board, school district and university leadership members and others. These individuals engage in open and meaningful dialog about the industry needs and demands and types of engagement with which they are open to participating due to limitations of time, human capital, and funding. Additionally, they are asked to provide feedback on the current implementation of programming. Additionally, SEP periodically seeks survey feedback from industry participants who engage in career connected learning (next survey to go out in September 2025.) In turn, this information is utilized in events engaged by the BAC as best practices are identified. This was represented in the way the two educator bootcamps were conducted including informing the inclusion of transferable skills and the need for hands-on experiences.

What is the business advisory council’s plan to utilize feedback and guidance from business and industry partners to increase skills for students and educators?

The BAC, with the leadership of SEP and the Canton Regional Chamber will continue to host annual educator bootcamps. As noted in the previous section, the idea is that the information learned, and the skills represented will then be transferred from educators to students. Regarding the Stark Career Pathway Initiative, skills are provided to students during their experiences with business partners. This allows the priorities for skills imparted to be directed by the business partners themselves and is most influential in our career shadowing and internship experiences which have been expanding over the past three years. Several schools have added mock interviews into their curriculum, and one school (East Canton High School) has created “Experienceships” that are multi-visit career shadows. The district has a business partner who specializes in executive leadership training, John Blakeney, who does soft skills training with the students before they enter the business environment.

How will identified industry partners co-develop relevant in-demand skills for students and educators? Both directly through the BAC and with SEP’s programming coordination of skill

development has occurred. Educator Bootcamps, Stark County Manufacturing's Manufacturing Day, and TomTod Ideas middle school experiences are all informed by the business community's input. Additionally, in 2024, there was a grant funded opportunity in which Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board, Strengthening Stark, Stark Education Partnership and TeamNeo worked together to create student info sheets that merged data regarding industry and career needs within the 16 national career clusters. These informational sheets are utilized by each organization in its own workforce development aspects. The sheets are utilized by SEP's career champions to help students see how various levels of education within a given sector can provide them with different career and income outcomes.

How will partners impact career readiness for students with disabilities?

SEP, working with Canton City Schools and the Stark County ESC, has created a support system for the district's vulnerable youth. This is not specific to disabled individuals alone. Rather students needing support in several buildings meet one on one with a designated staff to complete YouScience when appropriate or plan business partner visits or site visits.

Initiative 2: Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership (SCMWDP) Programs

Note: Like SEP, SCMWDP is a nonprofit organization conducting its own group of career connected learning opportunities that support awareness and exposure to the industry. SCMWDP is an active participant in the BAC, both providing and receiving feedback that achieves a mutually beneficial outcome.

What is the business advisory council plan to utilize insights from business and industry to increase skills for students and educators?

Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership hosts a number of programs targeting workforce development and manufacturing awareness for youth and teachers. It acts separately and in tandem with SEP or Tom Todd Ideas to host events that also respond to the industry demand to train youth in transferable and employability skills. Businesses speak directly into the skills demonstrations they will provide to the stakeholders

SCMWDP Activities Disseminating Skills:

- Manufacturing Day (co-facilitated with SEP)
 - Approx. 300 students touring 11 Manufacturers in Stark County
- Manufacturing Tours for Educators (and teacher bootcamp participant) (Co-facilitated with SEP)
 - 30 educators annually
- Middle School Makers Camp (Co-facilitated with Tom Todd Ideas)

- 4th year with an expansion of 5 camps in 3 Stark County Communities supporting numerous districts
- Initiation of the #MadeInStark 2nd grade book series
 - Ohio Gratings sponsored first edition to be provided to 4300 second graders (2024-5 and 2025-6)

How will expanded industries develop relevant in-demand skills for students and educators?

As each employer who participates has a variety of different skilled and unskilled trades as well as professional positions, they are able to control the skills that are shared with youth as they engage. Additionally, cumulative information is provided periodically in reports from our local workforce development board and TeamNeo. Members of the BAC and supporting organizations identified serve to help the manufacturers to consider the safety and developmental ability of youth to engage and thrive in various activities.

How will partners impact career readiness for students with disabilities?

As with all partner site-based experiences, safety must be a primary consideration. As such, individuals with disabilities are included in activities to the extent in which it can be done safely.

Quality Practice 3: Coordinate Experiences

Initiative 1: BAC Support of Community Partners' Facilitation of Student Engagement

Describe in detail how the business advisory council plans to increase Work-Based Learning for students.

In 2024, educational members of the BAC requested more lead time and contextual information surrounding events to be offered to their students by business and community members. After a discussion around the needs of the group, a two-tier plan was developed. First, a sheet identified as "Major Stark County Events for Students" would be released late spring and early fall, so that schools could have a clear idea of opportunities and better be able to determine those which met the needs of their students. Second, community partners who offered events (Junior Achievement, Akron Canton Builds, Marathon Petroleum, Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership, Jobs for Ohio's Graduates etc.) would be offered a brief time at the meeting to share about their organization and promote the event. This plan was carried out throughout last year.

For the 2025-2026 year, the group has determined to provide a concerted effort to better understand university programs and their community partnerships to encourage pipelines to career pathways. As a result, college programming and partnerships will be the theme of most of the upcoming year's BAC sessions, with all 6 local universities hosting a session of the BAC. Members of the group want to better understand career opportunities being presented to both middle/ high school students and college

students, so they can better speak into how those relate to the larger economic/ workforce needs in the community.

List all school districts and number of students that will benefit from this initiative.

All 21 school districts' superintendents are included in the BAC, so the total 50,533 K-12 students in Stark County plus the 4 additional area districts participating will potentially benefit from the knowledge of opportunities and following engagement in some of the core events connected to these efforts. For instance, the chart below shows the average number of students who will engage from any of these districts in core events.

- Stark County Educator Tours from SCMWDP: 60
 - **List all participating school districts:** Alliance City Schools, Lake Local Schools Louisville City Schools, Fairless Local Schools, Heritage Christian School, Perry Local Schools, Tuslaw Local Schools, Canton City Schools, Jackson Local Schools, Marlinton Local Schools
- Stark County Manufacturing Day Student Engagement: Approx. 300
 - **List of Participating Districts:** Jackson, Fairless, Alliance (2 busses), Sandy Valley, Marlinton, Tuslaw, Canton City (pending bus), Perry, North Canton, Louisville
- SCMWDP Elementary Book and Coloring Contest 4,300
 - All Districts located in Stark County
- Akron Canton Builds Approx. 300
 - Uncertain- most districts
- Marathon Petroleum Field Days Approx. 300
 - List of Participating Districts: Osnaburg, Fairless, Alliance City (2 busses), Sandy Valley, Marlinton, Tuslaw, Canton City (pending bus), Perry, North Canton, Louisville, Canton Local
- Hoover Opportunity Fair
 - 600 students register 1
 - 14 different area high schools.
 - 35 adults registered for the VIP session, including one from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.
- Junior Achievement Inspire to Hire
 - Hall of Fame Village Presented by FirstEnergy
 - 2,605 students with 101 booths hosted by 92 different companies.
 - The 8 soft skills and career explorations booths created by JA and hosted by community volunteers
 - 79.5% of the students that completed the post event survey at the exit area in Canton said that attending JA Inspire motivated them to want to seek employment in Ohio after graduation

List all businesses and industries that will be involved.

1. Ohio Gratings, Inc.
2. RW Screw
3. The M.K. Morse Company
4. Stark State College
5. Ambaflex
6. Gregory Industries
7. MT Systems
8. Timken
9. County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership
10. CTE institutions and consortiums throughout the county
11. Junior Achievement
12. Stark Education Partnership
13. Tom Todd Ideas
14. Marathon Petroleum Corporation (plus area law enforcement and contractors with whom they contract)
15. Akron Canton Builds (plus more than 20 businesses and unions with whom they contract)
16. Knight Materials
17. Canton Drop Forge
18. North Canton Hoover High School (and all business partners who engage the fair)

What role does business play in planning and implementation?

As in other events cited, many events are hosted by or in concert with the business partners. In each case, the business stands alongside the hosting entity to co-plan their engagement in the events. In many cases the event is preceded by numerous planning meetings, where all interested stakeholders are invited to attend and add their input to the final plan.

Initiative 2: Stark Career Pathways Work-based Experiences

Describe in detail how the business advisory council plans to increase Work-Based Learning for students

As previously mentioned, the Stark Career Pathways Initiative is carried out by SEP who is BAC partner and facilitator. While the Initiative is the work of SEP, the member districts are all actively engaged with the BAC and supported by the previously outlined communication and planning mechanisms that refine and magnify participation and impact. One hallmark of the work-based experiences program within the initiative is the use of students' YouScience Results in deciding which individuals should be invited to attend specific types of opportunities. District partners have begun to utilize this best practice in nearly all applications from attending JA's Inspire event with a list of businesses to visit to deciding if a student would be best served to attend Akron-Canton Builds (trades), Manufacturing Day, or an IT event at Walsh. In many cases, promoting these events at the BAC meetings helped support this refinement.

List all school districts that will benefit from this initiative. Alliance City Schools, Canton City Schools, Marlinton Local Schools, Tuslaw Local Schools, Heritage Christian School, Fairless Local

Schools, Sandy Valley Local Schools, Canton Local Schools, Louisville City Schools, North Canton City Schools, Perry Local Schools, GlenOak Local Schools, Osnaburg Local Schools

List all businesses and industries that will be involved.

Partner List found at <https://www.edpartner.org/partners>

What role does business play in implementation?

Businesses play a key role in these experiences. They help determine the skills to be taught and the mechanism for doing so. In hosting, they provide a corporate mentor who guides the student through the experience, and they speak into any grading/academic outcomes requested by the schools. In some cases, if students do not come prepared to the experience, there is a meaningful exchange about how the school, teacher, student, and company can better work together for a positive outcome.

Interesting data points tracking toward workforce development through SEP's Site Based Experiences (at the business) are below. Over the past few years, there has been a significant growth from career fairs and tours to the development of career shadowing, internships, and connections to permanent employment upon graduation. These are trends being followed by the organization and supported by mentorship of both interested businesses and schools.

	SY25 All School Partners		
Site Based Experiences	Aggregate # of Activities	Aggregate Total Student Experiences	Aggregate Unique Students
Employment	6	7	7
Externship	19	44	8
Internship	10	13	9
Job Shadow	42	44	40
Site Visit/Company Tour	61	590	431
Total	138	698	495

	Aggregate All Years	
Site Based Experiences	Aggregate # of Activities	Aggregate Total Student Experiences
Employment	8	10
Externship	19	44
Internship	44	31
Job Shadow	52	55

Site Visit/Company Tour	140	1,656
Total	263	1,796

Highlight Experiences by BAC Member Marathon Petroleum Corporation

Marathon Petroleum Corporation Field Day: In year 2 of implementation, Marathon welcomed almost 300 students from across Stark County to engage in an interactive career fair experience that showed off numerous careers within the oil and gas industry but that bridged industry sectors with the inclusion of professional career representation, law enforcement representation, and construction contractor representation. Students engaged in hands on activities featuring skills, safety, and environmental considerations.

Marathon Petroleum Summer Internship: 2025 featured the second year of the Marathon Summer Internship program. This year, we welcomed 6 students to full-time paid employment. Each student worked Monday through Thursday and was provided with a mentor and designated job with duties and expectations. On Friday of each week, Marathon contracted with fellow BAC member, Legacy Project of Stark County to host soft skills training, meetings with community leaders, and a project co-sponsored by the Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership.