



2025 Business Advisory Council Joint Statement Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council

EACH BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL AND ITS SCHOOL BOARD SHALL FILE A JOINT STATEMENT, NOT LATER THAN THE FIRST DAY OF MARCH OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR, DESCRIBING HOW THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SERVICE CENTER AND ITS BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL HAS FULFILLED THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SECTION 3313.82 OF THE REVISED CODE.

Name of Business Advisory Council (BAC):

Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council (SRBAC)

Primary Contact:

Diane Xander, Superintendent
Polaris Career Center

Secondary Contact:

Doug Miller, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement
Polaris Career Center

1. Has there been any change in the structure or leadership of your Business Advisory Council since you submitted your plan for this academic year? If yes, please provide details.

There have been no changes to our structure or leadership.

2. Of goals submitted in your 2024-2025 Business Advisory Council Plan, on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being fully accomplished...

10 - We accomplished all the goals we set out to achieve in 2024-2025.

3. What goals were you able to accomplish?

Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers

Initiative 1 - Polaris Advisory Councils



- Local Data: Served 100% of Polaris program pathways and Advisory Council members

Initiative 2 - SRBAC In-Demand Career Forums

- Local Data: Served 100% of all junior students enrolled in Transportation, Hospitality and Business & Marketing Programs

December 12, 2024 – Transportation Pathway- Automotive and Aeronautics – Industry panel took place at the ODOT District 12 Offices

February 2, 2025 – Hospitality (Culinary) Pathway – Featuring Chef Brandon Chrostowski, founder of EDWINS Leadership and Restaurant Institute

April 10, 2025 – Business and Marketing Pathway – Featuring the Cleveland Guardians, Perception Multimedia and Academy Graphic

Initiative 3 – Employability Seminar

- Local Data: Associate school counselors identified 138 students to participate in the Employability Seminar. Polaris served 52% (72) of the students identified. Students that did not participate in the seminar- personally opted out of the training.

Initiative 4 – Career Development (K-3)

Local Data: Served 2,302 students in all six school districts.

Initiative 5 – Junior Career Planning Workshop

Local Data: 21 lessons completed – All 18 Polaris programs participated – 402 students completed exit surveys

Initiative 6 – Career Exploration and Development: Grades 4-8

- Local Data: Career exploration opportunities are open to 4-8 graders in the Berea City Schools, Brooklyn City Schools, Fairview Park City Schools, North Olmsted City Schools, Olmsted Falls City Schools, and Strongsville City Schools. Career Quest served 1,500 8th graders. Explorer Club and Camp Discovery are after-school/summer opportunities. Explorer Club served 140 students in 24-25 and Camp Discovery 225 students (a new record) in 24-25. BuildHER, new in 2024-2025, served 34 seventh and eighth grade girls

Build Partnerships

Initiative 1 – Industry Driven Trade Fairs

- Local Data: 100% of all Polaris students participated in the employability classes, resume writing and mock interviews to prepare for heavy trades and medical trade fairs.

Initiative 2 – Senior Connections

- **Local Data:** Associate school counselors identified 138 students to participate in the Senior Connections Event. Polaris served 52% (72) of the students identified. 37 students attended the official event.

Coordinate Experiences

Initiative 1 – Workforce Development: Student Internships for 11th and 12th Students

- **Local Data:** Berea City Schools, Brooklyn City Schools, Fairview Park City Schools, North Olmsted City Schools, Olmsted Falls City Schools, and Strongsville City Schools. 57% of the Polaris student body are paid interns. 88.5% of students participated in work-based learning experiences and 100% of students earned the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal.

Initiative 2 – Polaris Job Development Support Services

- **Local Data:** Students served in the Berea City Schools, Brooklyn City Schools, Fairview Park City Schools, North Olmsted City Schools, Olmsted Falls City Schools, and Strongsville City Schools. 100% of the students referred by their instructions to Job Development were employed. In addition, 100% of Polaris Special Admission programs have simulated work based learning agreements with local industry partners.

4. What challenges have you experienced implementing your goals?

We didn't experience any major challenges implementing our goals other than balancing these activities with normal school day schedules.

5. What new partnerships has your Business Advisory Council formed for the 2024-2025 school year? Please list any new business partners, organizations, or community stakeholders that have been added.

We added 31 new SRBAC members in 2024-2025 and served 4,791 young people in grades K-12. We also launched a successful Certified Nursing Assistant: Earn & Learn program with one of our key employer partners, O'Neill Healthcare.

6. Have you added or removed any goals from your 2024-2025 Business Advisory Council Plan? If so, please provide specific details on these changes.

N/A

7. Has your Business Advisory Council received any media coverage or participated in any case studies during this school year? If yes, please provide details on the coverage and the focus of any case studies.

We didn't receive media coverage, but we regularly highlighted our efforts on Polaris social media platforms and in district communications. In addition, we attended and presented at the 2025 BAC Townhall session in Columbus. This presentation featured members of our administrative team along with select business and community partners.

JOINT STATEMENTS SHOULD BE FILED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD AND AVAILABLE EITHER ON YOUR BAC WEBSITE, ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER OR OTHER COMMUNICATION TO STAKEHOLDERS. THERE IS NO NEED TO UPLOAD IN OHID. JOINT STATEMENTS MAY BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BUSINESSADVISORYCOUNCIL@EDUCATION.OHIO.GOV.