

2025-26 Business Advisory Council Joint Statement Template

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): **Summit Educational Service Center BAC**

Primary Contact: Scott Ross scottr@summitesc.org

Secondary Contact: Bob Wolf bobw@summitesc.org

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.

Since the retirement of Missi Zender, Scott Ross is now the lead BAC Coordinator for the group.

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

Overall: 7

What goals were you able to accomplish?

We have been successful in engaging with the City of Akron, local universities, the Greater Akron Chamber and it's various partners and other local businesses to explore all possible opportunities to collaborate. There have been dozens of meetings and several grant applications that will ultimately benefit our districts and students in the areas of career awareness and experiences.

So far, we have had three productive meetings that offered on-site experiences, and presentations from partners with valuable data and information.

What challenges have you experienced implementing your goals?

Time and availability: with the hefty demands placed upon school leaders and administrators, it is difficult to coordinate meetings and site visits that work for all of our members.

Student programming: While schools recognize the importance of career awareness and assisting students along their pathways, it is challenging to carve up the minutes of a school day to offer as much as we would like to. Students face a lot of demands for their time as well, whether it's CCP, AP, CBI, CTE & vocational programs, extra-curriculars and existing part-time jobs. We are hearing more and more from schools that there are fewer students in the building stretching over the entire day because of the various programs, which makes introducing new systems a challenge.

Additionally, we are all looking for solutions for our students in most need of career engagement, who often don't have external supports and/or are not successful in high school or vocational programs. If some of these organizations could assist families with structure, transportation, training programs, etc. that we can guide them toward, they will have a greater chance of sustained independence after high school.

Engaging leadership in the health care industry to identify best resources for our districts and students has also been a challenge.

What new partnerships has your Business Advisory Council formed for the 2025-2026 school year? Please list any new business partners, organizations, or community stakeholders that have been added.

Re-engagement with a host of local organizations and government entities, including Greater Akron Chamber, City of Akron, JATC Akron, Akron-Canton Area Alliance and others. Through our new membership with GAC, networking events and opportunities to collaborate have expanded.

We have also been very active in meeting with vendors who's products overlap with our goals, and selectively inviting them in for presentations or to distribute information. An example of that is the STEM Playbook team speaking at our Q3 meeting.

Have you added or removed any goals from your 2025-2026 Business Advisory Council Plan? If so, please provide specific details on these changes.

We will re-evaluate in the summer after Scott completes his first year as coordinator.

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.

No, but this is a goal for future events.

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.