

Champaign County BAC Meeting Minutes September 21, 2026

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of the New Business & School Liaison

- Welcome Ashley Cook, Business & School Liaison
- Overview of the role and goals for the 2026–2027 school year
- Building stronger connections between Champaign County schools and businesses

CAREER EXPO: Will focus on Freshman & Sophomores this year

- November 3, 2026
- Registration link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeN944JeDdfKlt_UHVxfi73FvATbRm_bVgGLymjN2RfcwEZMw/viewform?usp=publish-editor&urp=gmail_link
- 2026 Champaign County Career Expo
Tuesday, November 3, 2026
9:00 AM–2:00 PM
Champaign County Fairgrounds
[384 Park Ave, Urbana, OH 43078](#)

BUSINESS UPDATE

Parker Trutec

- Business update- Manufacture surface treatment at Urbana facility; Springfield facility does a lot of heat treating
- Internships-- looking for up to 6 interns 20 hours per week; pay is possible; Engineering, Maintenance, Accounting, Quality and HR internships at Urbana and Springfield and Systems Operations at Urbana
- Ways businesses can engage with local students and schools

Berry Digital Solutions

- Business update
- TV & monitors in all of the county schools- Purchased by grant through CEP; shows community information, education information, career opportunities; CEP will be dissolving by the end of the year so ESC will take leadership of project but is seeking sponsorship; Share information across the county with students

Junior Achievement

- Inspire Career Expo will be held in October; 7th-12th grade students
- Clark County Fairgrounds
- Cover 16 Career Clusters so students are able to see career opportunities in many areas; will also have colleges attend

CPSN (Career Pathway Support Network), Rosie Matthies

Middle School CTE access

Work with career connected framework

Have been working with new Industry Recognized Credentials

SCHOOL UPDATE

Ohio Hi Point:

- Kits k-8th grade

- Teacher facilitated kits; dropped off & picked up at school by OHP

BAC WORKING SESSIONS

SESSION 1 Developing Professional Skills for Careers

20 Minutes

Discussion Questions:

- What professional skills do students need to be successful in today's workforce?
- What skills are businesses seeing students lack?
- What can schools do to better prepare students for the workplace?
- What experiences could businesses provide to help students develop these skills?

BAC Share & Discuss

- Groups return together & share their ideas

SESSION 2 Building Partnerships Between Businesses & Schools

20 Minutes

Discussion Questions:

- How can we make it easier for businesses and schools to connect?
- What types of partnerships would benefit students and businesses?
- How can we increase business involvement in classrooms?
- What barriers prevent businesses and schools from working together?
- What can the BAC do to help create stronger partnerships

BAC Share & Discuss

Groups return together & share their ideas

SESSION 3 Coordinating Student & Business Experiences

20 Minutes

Discussion Questions:

- What experiences should students have before graduating?
- How can we coordinate job shadows, tours, guest speakers, career days, internships and hands-on experiences?
- How can we better connect students with businesses based on their interests and career pathways?
- How can we make these experiences easier for businesses to participate in?
- What experiences could we coordinate countywide?

BAC Share & Discuss

Groups return together & share their ideas

MOVING FORWARD

Turning Ideas into Action

Review the major themes from all three working sessions

Complete & write the BAC Goals for the 2026-2027