NORTHWEST OHIO ESC
Providing Quality Services
Building Valued Partnerships

Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

8:45 – 10:34

LOCATION: Northwest Ohio ESC

	Last	First	Agency	Position		Last	First	Agency	Position
X	Armstrong	Troy	Wauseon	Superintendent		Mansel-Pleydell	John	NWOCA/STEAM/ AMC	Supervisor
X	Arps	Jennifer	Henry County CIC	Executive Director		Morton	Robert	Defiance City	Superintendent
X	Atkinson	Tori	NSCC/AMC	Executive Director	X	Peters	Richie	Liberty Center	Superintendent
X	Becher	Brian	Ayersville	Superintendent		Rairigh	Mark	Bryan City	Superintendent
X	Belcher	Angie	Fayette	Superintendent	X	Remer	Michael	NwOESC	Business-Ed Liaison/CoChair
X	Belcher	Erik	Napoleon	Superintendent	X	Rex	Chad	NwOESC/STEAM	Director
	Biederstedt	Josh	Patrick Henry	Superintendent	X	Riley	Steve	Millcreek WU	Superintendent
X	Boehm	Cara	Defiance County ED	Director of Bus Devel & Mkting	X	Schuette	Jessica	Holgate	Superintendent
X	Bute	Michael	North Central	Superintendent	X	Selgo	Jayson	Archbold	Superintendent
	Clark	Josh	Pettisville	Superintendent	X	Slattery	Jeff	4CCC	Superintendent
X	Cooke	LuAnne	Ohio Senate	Dist. Advisor-Sen R. McColley	X	Smola	Eric	Evergreen	Superintendent
X	Countryman	Keith	Hicksville	Superintendent		Stantz	Jennifer	Wms County ED	Assistant Director
	Drewes	Jim	NSCC	Director-Workforce	X	Stevens	Anthony	Edon	Superintendent
	Epling	Ashley	Williams County ED	Executive Director	X	Weir	Kerri	NwOESC	Supt./Co-Chair
X	Ford	Doug	Pike Delta York	Superintendent	X	Wells	Nicole	Northeastern	Superintendent
	Hernandez	Todd	NSCC	President		Wilhelm	Ben	Edgerton	Superintendent
	Hoops	James	Ohio House Dist. 81	Representative		Willitzer	Erika	Def County ED	Executive Director
X	Hug	Tod	NWOCA	Executive Director		Wyse	Jim	Fult County ED	Executive Director
X	Hunter	Andrew	NwOESC/STEAM	Director/Co-Chair	X	Ziegler	Kylie	Hen County CIC	Admin Assistant
X	Johnson	Nate	Stryker	Superintendent					
X	Keesee	Alan	Central Local	Superintendent					
	Kohv	Kelly	Fulton County ED	Admin Assistant					
X	Lake	Chris	Swanton	Superintendent					
X	Lichty	Travis	Montpelier	Superintendent	X	Brodie	Lori	Regional Director NW Ohio	US Senator John Husted
X	Lorenzen	Abby	NwOESC	CFO/BAC Secretary	X	Bohn	Evan	Fult County ED	

Breakfast and Networking 8:45 – 9:00

**denotes item for membership vote*

1. **Call to Order: 9:00 a.m.**

2. **Roll Call**

3. ***NwOESC BAC Meeting Summary Review and Approval:**
   a. A motion to approve the summary of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council collaboration with the AMC annual luncheon held on March 3, 2026 was made by Troy Armstrong and second by Nate Johnson. Motion passed.

4. ***NwOESC BAC Meeting Schedule for 2026-27:**
   a. A motion to approve the meeting schedule for the 2026-27 school year was made by Steve Riley and second by Richie Peters. Motion passed.

5. **Business and Education Spotlight Planning for 2026-27:**
   a. Reach out to NwOESC Co-Chair, Mike Remer (Michael.Remer@nwoesc.org), if interested in **hosting** a meeting or providing a **spotlight**.

DATE	County/Economic Development Director	School District, JVSD, Community College
9/16/2026		Four County Career Center
12/8/2026		
5/11/2027		

6. **Katie Jimenez - Liberty Center Schools: Prepared Initiative, Tiger Vision days, & joint initiatives with Henry County CIC**

   Ms. Katie Jimenez shared that Liberty Center recently completed an 18-month fact-finding process focused on better preparing students for life after graduation. The process included surveys of area businesses, higher education institutions, 2023 graduates, parents and community members, students, and staff. The leadership team also participated in the Henry County Bootcamp to explore additional ways to expose students to career opportunities, workplace skills, and future planning.

   As a result of this work, Liberty Center developed Tiger Vision, a program for students in grades 9–12. Tiger Vision incorporates YouScience, guest speakers—including 52 parents and community members—hands-on labs, job shadowing, college visits, and bus tours of local businesses. Liberty Center also holds a teacher-led Community Connection Day for students in grades 6–12.

The district partners closely with the **Henry County CIC**, which assists with business tours, hands-on labs, sponsorships, and generating new ideas and opportunities to connect students with the local community and workforce.

7. Logan Segaard - DGL Consulting Engineers: Civil Engineering perspective on growth in the region

Mr. Logan Segaard provided an overview of the civil engineering field and the variety of career opportunities available within the profession. Civil engineers work in areas such as transportation, traffic safety, site and facility development, surveying—including the use of certified drone pilots—and construction inspection and management.

He also highlighted opportunities for students to gain firsthand exposure to the field through job observation, shadowing, and career and technical exploration. In addition, DGL partners with the University of Toledo to offer a co-op program that allows students to alternate between attending college and working at DGL while also receiving financial assistance toward their education.

8. Max Smith - 96.1 WMTR: History of the station and the interesting people he met along the way

Mr. Max Smith shared that the radio station has been serving the community for 58 years and takes great pride in providing a personal, local connection for its listeners. The station is especially passionate about covering area high school sports, making an effort to recognize students by name on the air and highlighting their accomplishments through features such as Athlete of the Week. He also noted longtime personalities, including well-known prognosticator Larry Christy, as well as the station's role as the local voice of the Detroit Tigers.

Mr. Smith discussed how radio equipment and technology have evolved over the years and explained that the station now reaches approximately a 60-mile radius from Wauseon, with an estimated 15,000–25,000 listeners. The station offers destination programming and relies primarily on advertising sales for revenue.

He also emphasized the station's connection to students and the community, including opportunities for students interested in broadcasting and related careers to participate in job shadowing experiences.

9. Updates from the Membership:

a. Legislative Updates: none.

a. Defiance County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing: Cara Boehm shared several ways they are supporting workforce development and educational opportunities in the community. They are partnering with NSCC to sponsor a summer STEAM camp, providing students with opportunities to explore science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics through hands-on experiences. She also discussed efforts to develop a welder training program to help prepare a skilled workforce for a new company coming to the Hicksville area.

b. Fulton County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing: Evan Bahn introduced himself. This is his first BAC meeting.

c. Henry County Community Improvement Corporation Director Updates and Information Sharing: Jennifer Arps shared information about their **In-Demand Jobs Day**, which connects students directly with local employers and career opportunities. The event includes 16 participating employers and is limited to 32 students who are planning to enter the workforce rather than attend college. The experience gives these students an opportunity to explore in-demand careers, learn about local employment options, and make connections with potential employers.

d. Williams County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing:
Educator Bootcamp - Jun 01, 2026, 9:00 AM – Jun 04, 2026, 3:00 PM
    1. Location is different each day
    2. Bootcamp is now open to educators in any district in our four-county area
    3. Link to register: https://www.williamscountyed.org/upcomingevents

e. Northwest State Community College Updates and Information Sharing: none.

f. Four County Career Center Updates and Information Sharing: Jeff Slattery provided an update on the expansion currently underway. They anticipate taking possession of the new space in June, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony planned for August to celebrate the completion of the project.

g. AMC/STEAM Updates and Information Sharing:
    i. Career Tree Initiative – Seeking districts to pilot curriculum in Grades 5-8
        1. Contact John Mansel-Pleydell at mpleydell@nwoca.org
    ii. Mini-Manufacturing Camp (Grades 5 & 6)
        1. 450 students participated

h. School District Updates and Information Sharing: None.

10. Next Meeting:

a. Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at Four County Career Center.

11. ***Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn the meeting of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council was made by Jessica Schuette and second by Nate Johnson. Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.