



Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Northwest Ohio ESC

Breakfast served @ 7:45 a.m.

Meeting begins at 8:00

X	Kerri Gearhart, NwOESC Superintendent	Chairperson	X	Linda Schlosser, NwOESC Administrative Assistant	Secretary
	Jerry Hayes, Director	Defiance County Economic Development	X	Erik Belcher, Superintendent	Fayette Local
X	Matthew Gilroy, Director	Fulton County Economic Development	X	Keith Countryman, Superintendent	Hicksville Exempted Village
	Denise Dahl, Director	Henry County Economic Development	X	Kelly Meyers, Superintendent	Holgate Local
X	Matthew Davis, Director	Williams County Economic Development	X	James Wyse, Superintendent	Millcreek-West Unity Local
	Cindy Krueger, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness & Student Success	Northwest State Community College		Jamison Grime, Superintendent	Montpelier Exempted Village
X	Michael Thomson, President	Northwest State Community College	X	Stephen Fogo, Superintendent	Napoleon Area City
X	Tim Meister, Superintendent	Four County Career Center	X	William Hanak, Superintendent	North Central Local
X	John Mansel-Pleydell, Supervisor	NWOCA Instructional Services/STEAM	X	James Roach, Superintendent	Northeastern Local
X	Chad Rex, Director	NwOESC Technology /STEAM		Joshua Biederstedt, Superintendent	Patrick Henry Local
X	Kris Dobbelaere, Director	NwOESC Curriculum/STEAM	X	Stephen Switzer, Superintendent	Pettisville Local
	Marc Robinson, Superintendent	Archbold Area Local	X	Ted Haselman, Superintendent	Pike-Delta-York Local
X	Don Diglia, Superintendent	Ayersville Local	X	Nate Johnson, Superintendent	Stryker Local
X	Diana Savage, Superintendent	Bryan City	X	Christopher Lake, Superintendent	Swanton Local
X	Steve Arnold, Superintendent	Central Local	X	Larry Brown, Superintendent	Wauseon Exempted Village
X	Michael Struble, Superintendent	Defiance City	X	Jennifer Arps	representing Henry County Economic Development
X	Kermit Riehle, Superintendent	Edgerton Local	X	Jessica Double	Worthington Industries
X	Anthony Stevens, Superintendent	Edon Northwest Local			Guest
	Eric Smola, Superintendent	Evergreen Local			Guest

*denotes item for membership vote

1. Call to Order and Introductions: 8:03 a.m. – “Share briefly about your first real job”
2. *NwOESC BAC Meeting Minutes Review and Approval

- a. A motion to approve the minutes of the NwoESC Business Advisory Council meeting held on 09/04/2018 was made by Nate Johnson and second by James Roach. Motion passed.

3. *Recommendation to Amend Council Membership

- a. A motion to recommend an amendment to the NwoESC BAC Guidelines regarding Council membership to include up to three (3) representatives from the NwoESC/NWOCA STEAM panel as selected by the NwoESC Superintendent was made by William Hanak and second by Kermit Riehle. Motion passed.

BAC Composition

The BAC shall be composed of the following persons:

- The Superintendent of the NwoESC;
- The Economic Development Directors from each of Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams Counties;
- The Superintendent of School for each School District passing a resolution indicating that it has elected to have the NwoESC BAC serve as its BAC;
- The Superintendent from Four County Career Center;
- A representative from Northwest State Community College, as selected by the President or Dean of Academic Affairs.
- Up to three (3) representatives from the NwoESC/NWOCA STEAM panel, as selected by the NwoESC Superintendent.

The Superintendent of the NwoESC shall serve as chairperson of the BAC and shall further serve as the contact point for the BAC.

The composition of the NwoESC may be adjusted by the NwoESC Board of Education, upon recommendation of a majority vote of the BAC.

Council appointees shall serve on an on-going basis, unless the composition is altered by the NwoESC in the manner described above.

4. Business/Education Spotlight:

- a. Jessica Double, HR Coordinator at Worthington Industries
 - i. Worthington Industries created a training/job skills presentation for high school students called Employ-Ability 101, which provides an overview of skills, needed in the workplace. Ms. Double shared the presentation and how she has collaborated with some schools in Fulton County to share this information. Ms. Double has tailored the presentation to fit school schedules, for example conducting the entire presentation in 2-3 hours, or breaking it into smaller sessions over multiple days. Certificates of completion are awarded to each participant.
 - ii. Ms. Double is willing to share the presentation with other businesses that are interested in working with schools. Currently Worthington Industries is limited to direct collaboration with districts in Fulton County and with Four County Career Center.

5. New Business:

- a. NwoESC BAC Member Survey Review:
 - i. Mission and Vision, Priorities, and Next Steps
 1. The Council agreed to the following Mission and Vision:
 - a. NwoESC BAC Vision: A well-prepared workforce that contributes to the economic growth and development and improved quality of life throughout the Northwest Ohio region.
 - b. NwoESC BAC Mission: The mission of the Northwest Ohio BAC is to bring together on a regional level key stakeholders in business and education to

advise, support and enhance the awareness, instruction and experiences students are provided in striving to gain relevant, in-demand job skills as part of their preparation for future career success.

2. Based on Member Survey 11/27/2018 the following priorities were determined:
 - a. PRIORITY #1 – Fostering collaboration beyond the Council, among business, labor and education personnel.
 - i. Broadly engaging local businesses to support the community’s education system and participate in activities specified in the plan.
 - ii. Soliciting input from businesses on the work of the business advisory council.
 - b. PRIORITY #2 - Publicizing and communicating local economy and job information: This would include activities designed to inform students, educators and the community about changes to the local economy and which jobs will be most in demand.
 - i. Developing and implementing a local marketing plan for in-demand careers
 - ii. Arranging for meetings between chambers of commerce or business roundtables to discuss economic development in the area
 - iii. Preparing and sharing reports and information on employment trends from the U.S. and Ohio Bureau of Labor Statistics
 - iv. Inviting representatives from postsecondary and the workforce development community to meetings to discuss the future of jobs in the area
 - v. Using OhioMeansJobs K-12 to show in-demand jobs both throughout Ohio and in the local community
 - ii. There was a wide range of survey responses with much room for collaboration.
 - iii. Discussion indicated there are gaps with students and parents in understanding the jobs in the area with wages that will provide a comfortable lifestyle. Over ½ of the positions available locally do not require a college degree. Parents need to physically visit the vocational school and business/industry to better understand what they offer. There is a continual struggle to bridge the gap between career, college, and workplace. There are opportunities for students to get into the workforce and then continue with college while employed to possibly have the businesses pay for coursework (or a portion of). This maximizes opportunities while being economical.
 - iv. Council agreed to form a Priorities Workgroup to further review and develop items related to Priorities 1 and 2 from the survey. Five members volunteered: Nate Johnson, Michael Thomson, Matt Gilroy, Tim Meister, and John Mansel-Pleydell
- b. Graduation requirements for class of 2019 – (handout)
- i. Problem – It was noted that a high percentage of students in the class of 2019 are at risk of not graduating due to current requirements. High stakes testing and lack of legislative action are the main reasons for the issue.
 - ii. Impact – Low graduation rates will reflect poorly on school, many students will be prevented from obtaining a diploma, and businesses will have a smaller pool of potential workers, overall portrayal of Ohio as being a state with inadequate education system.
 - iii. Recommendations (to be shared with legislators):
 1. The Council expressed that extending the pathways and options available to the class of 2018 to this current year 2019 would be advantageous for schools, students and

businesses. It was noted the state should continue with discussions on additional ways students can show competence for graduation including industry certificates and/or credentials. A motion was made by Larry Brown and seconded by Matt Gilroy to support this recommendation. Motion passed.

2. On a related note, it was noted that the “Prepared for Success” measure in the Local Report Card is not realistic and reflects negatively on districts who are successfully preparing students beyond graduation. It was recommended this measure be redesigned or eliminated.

- c. Volunteer needed to arrange/provide Spotlight on Business/Education for March 2019 meeting (10 - 15 minute presentation). Matt Davis committed to securing a volunteer.

6. Information Sharing related to Education and Business Collaboration Efforts:

- a. Defiance County Economic Development Director – Workforce Development Summary handout (see attached)
- b. Fulton County Economic Development Director – Matt Gilroy reported some businesses have expressed concern that while most of them use Microsoft based programs, many schools appear to be using Google based platforms. This is something schools should be cognizant of and work to prepare students to adapt to a variety of platforms. The Lucas County Chamber is conducting a study regarding the in demand/in supply job market and the mismatch of the labor pool. The study will be shared with the Council when complete. Consideration should be given to doing a similar study for the four county area.
- c. Henry County Economic Development Director – Jennifer Arps reported schools are collaborating with businesses to do presentations at the schools with a focus on educating both students and parents about job markets and local opportunities. There are parents without jobs who could benefit from the information. Collaboration is occurring with Guidance Counselors on bus tours and internships.
- d. Williams County Economic Development Director –Matt Davis shared that as part of the sophomores’ visits to 4CCC, WEDCO has arranged for students to hear testimonials from former local students who attended the vocational school on the career paths they have selected, their career journeys, and influence on their lives. A wage study is being conducted for Williams County businesses and will be presented to the committee when complete.
- e. Northwest State Community College - Michael Thomson shared a STEM event was held November 11 with over 300 attendees, including parents, college staff, area school staff, and local employers.
- f. Four County Career Center – Tim Meister shared that Early Job Placements are underway. Vocational students are helping various projects in local districts, such as the solar field initiative at Montpelier schools.
- g. STEAM –John Mansel-Pleydell shared that several Maker Space visits were conducted this fall including Maumee High School, Anthony Wayne Elementary, Gateway Middle School and Sylvania STEM Center. Two companies were toured for “Workplace Wednesdays”: CK Technologies (production facility and the R&D area) and Spangler Candy (the kitchens to see how flavors are tested/developed) Chad Rex shared about drone racing and the opportunity for districts to join the eLeague being formed for local events. Kris Dobbelaere shared that STEAM is being discussed with the Guidance Counselors through networking meetings. NwoESC is planning a STEAM Showcase on 5/13/19. Preliminary discussions are occurring regarding Career Coaching as a way to bridge business and education to better connect students to career pathways.

- h. School Districts – Erik Belcher expressed concern regarding lack of housing in the area. Matt Davis shared that based on a recent study in Williams County, 450 additional housing units could be absorbed. More information will be gathered.

7. Issues From the Council/Around the Table:

8. Next Meeting:

- a. Tuesday, March 5, 2019; 8:00 a.m. at NwOESC (7:45 breakfast)

9. *Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council was made by James Roach and second by Michael Thomson. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.