



Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

9:00 – 10:50

LOCATION: Advanced Rehabilitation Technology

525 Winzeler Dr # 1, Bryan, OH 43506

	Last	First	Agency	Position		Last	First	Agency	Position
X	Armstrong	Troy	Wauseon	Superintendent	X	Mansel-Pleydell	John	NWOCA/STEAM/ AMC	Supervisor
X	Arps	Jennifer	Henry County CIC	Executive Director	X	Morton	Robert	Defiance City	Superintendent
X	Atkinson	Tori	NSCC/AMC	Executive Director		Peters	Richie	Liberty Center	Superintendent
X	Becher	Brian	Ayersville	Superintendent	X	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 & Mktng	X	Schuette	Jessica	Holgate	Superintendent
	Bute	Michael	North Central	Superintendent		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
	Countryman	Keith	Hicksville	Superintendent	X	Stantz	Jennifer	Wms County ED	Assistant Director
	Drewes	Jim	NSCC	Director-Workforce		Stevens	Anthony	Edon	Superintendent
	Epling	Ashley	Williams County ED	Executive Director	X	Weir	Kerri	NwOESC	Supt./Co-Chair
	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
	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					
X	Kohv	Kelly	Fulton County ED	Admin Assistant					
X	Lake	Chris	Swanton	Superintendent					
	Lichty	Travis	Montpelier	Superintendent					
X	Lorenzen	Abby	NwoESC	CFO/BAC Secretary					

Others in attendance: Andy Smith, ODEW; Lana Snyder, NSCC; Ashley Aston, Husted's office; Lori Brodie, Husted's office; Abby Dewer, ODEW; Cara Leininger, Fulton County Ohio Means Jobs; Keith Leatherman, Wauseon HS Principal.

Breakfast and Networking 8:45 – 9:00

**denotes item for membership vote*

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

2. Roll Call (sign in); Introductions

3. *NwOESC BAC Meeting Minutes Review and Approval

a. A motion to approve the minutes of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council meeting held on May 6, 2025 was made by Nate Johnson and second by Bob Morton. Motion Passed.

4. *NwOESC BAC Plan FY26:

a. Career Connections Framework Review
b. BAC Plan Overview and Discussion
c. A motion to authorize the NwOESC BAC Co-Chairs to finalize the NwOESC BAC plan for FY26 and submit to ODEW by 9/30/2025 was made by Troy Armstrong and second by Jeff Slattery. Motion Passed.

5. Business Spotlight: Future of Fulton County – Chris Lake, Troy Armstrong, Angie Belcher, Eric Smola and Cara Leininger discussed how they have a partnership with the home district(s), training center, Ohio Means Jobs, and local businesses where the businesses receive a tax credit for hosting internships.

6. Business Spotlight: Advanced Rehabilitation Technology

A huge thank you to Advanced Rehabilitation Technology for hosting our BAC meeting! This gathering provided an excellent opportunity for industry and education leaders to connect, exchange ideas, and explore future collaborations. Together, we can strengthen strategies that better prepare our future workforce and address the skills gaps facing our region.

- ART Team Opening Comments: Dustin Schlachter discussed what he looks for in his employees. He stated that students in sports he has found are better prepared for the job. Starting pay can be in the \$90-100k range with no college required.
- Groups rotated through 3 stations where they learned about:
 - Construction (S&S Directional Boring)
 - Excavator Competition
 - What makes a good construction employee
 - Municipal Rehab (Advanced Rehabilitation Technology)
 - Manhole Rehabilitation – how this saves communities money

- What makes a good ART Rehab employee
- Coatings (OBIC)
 - Spray lining demonstration
 - Why a company like OBIC is ready for international exposure and what we need to grow.
- ART Team Closing Comments: Dustin Schlachter thanked the group for coming to tour their facility.

7. Member Updates:

- a. Defiance County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing: Cara Leininger shared that a new company, First Quality, is coming to the Central Local School District. They are currently working on housing and an ambassador program. They are estimating 1,000 contracts to build the facility, and 400+ permanent positions once it is open.
- b. Henry County Community Improvement Corporation Director Updates and Information Sharing: Jennifer Arps mentioned that they are working on a date for a local meeting with superintendents.
- c. Williams County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing: Jennifer Stantz discussed the Elevate and Explore program that they have with Bryan City Schools, they are planning a business roundtable, and they are working on a county-wide TIF district.
- d. Northwest State Community College Updates and Information Sharing: Tori Atkinson announced that the CCP textbook budget has been approved again for this year. They had great summer enrollment. They will be having a State of the College address for employees on September 25.
- e. Four County Career Center Updates and Information Sharing: Jeff Slattery discussed the Career Pathway grant that was applied for with steering committee members Mark Rairigh, Bryan City Schools, and Kerri Weir, NWOESC. The award should be announced in October. This would be used to expand access to career tech education for 7th-10th grade students.
- f. AMC/STEAM Updates and Information Sharing: John Mansel-Pleydell talked about Manufacturing Days which will be for freshmen on a few Fridays in October. They are expecting over 400 students. There are seven occupations registered for the manufacturing days. He also discussed the career tree curriculum which has been updated to include 21 soft skills. They are working on updated iPads for the STEAM lab, and he mentioned that AMC is free to join.

8. Next Meeting:

- a. **Tuesday, December 16, 2025**
- b. Tentative Location: North Star BlueScope Steel, Delta Ohio
- c. Reach out to Mike Remer and/or Andy Hunter for meeting spotlight or feature ideas:
 - i. Michael.Remer@nwoesc.org
 - ii. Andy.Hunter@nwoesc.org

9. *Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council was made by Jeff Slattery and second by Nate Johnson. Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.