

**Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**  
**9:00 – 10:15 AM**  
**Northwest Ohio ESC – 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold OH**

X	Kerri Weir, Superintendent	NwoESC Superintendent/BAC Co-Chair		NwoESC CFO/Treasurer	Secretary
X	Mike Remer, Business-Education Liaison	NwoESC BAC Co-Chair	X	James Wyse, Superintendent	Millcreek-West Unity Local
X	Erika Willitzer, Executive Director	Defiance County Economic Development	X	Jamison Grime, Superintendent	Montpelier Exempted Village
	Matt Gilroy, Executive Director	Fulton County Economic Development	X	Erik Belcher, Superintendent	Napoleon Area City
X	Jennifer Arps, Executive Director	Henry County Community Improvement Corporation	X	Michael Bute, Superintendent	North Central Local
	Ashley Epling, Executive Director	Williams County Economic Development	X	Nicole Wells, Superintendent	Northeastern Local
	Todd Hernandez, President	Northwest State Community College		Josh Biederstedt, Superintendent	Patrick Henry Local
X	Jeff Slattery, Superintendent	Four County Career Center		Josh Clark, Superintendent	Pettisville Local
X	John Mansel-Pleydell, Supervisor	NWOCA Professional Learning Group/STEAM/AMC	X	Jon Burke, Superintendent	Pike-Delta-York Local
X	Chad Rex, Director	NwoESC Technology /STEAM	X	Nate Johnson, Superintendent	Stryker Local
X	Andy Hunter, Director	NwoESC Curriculum/STEAM		Chris Lake, Superintendent	Swanton Local
X	Jayson Selgo, Superintendent	Archbold Area Local	X	Troy Armstrong, Superintendent	Wauseon Exempted Village
X	Beth Hench, Superintendent	Ayersville Local		State Representative James Hoops	Ohio House District 81
X	Mark Rairigh, Superintendent	Bryan City		LuAnn Cooke, NW Ohio Regional Liaison	Lt. Governor's Office
X	Steve Arnold, Superintendent	Central Local		Hannah Waterman, Workforce & Marketing	Defiance County Economic Development
X	Bob Morton, Superintendent	Defiance City	X	Paige Johnson, Business Development & Operations	Defiance County Economic Development
X	Tim Meister, Superintendent	Edgerton Local		Ruth Baumgartner, Guest Services	Fulton County Economic Development
X	Anthony Stevens, Superintendent	Edon-Northwest Local	X	Kylie Ziegler, Administrative Assistant	Henry County Community Improvement Corporation
X	Eric Smola, Superintendent	Evergreen Local	X	Jaclyn Herman, Assistant Director	Williams County Economic Development
X	Angela Belcher, Superintendent	Fayette Local	X	Tori Atkinson, Executive Director	Advanced Manufacturing Consortium (AMC)/NSCC
X	Keith Countryman, Superintendent	Hicksville Exempted Village	X	Tod Hug, Executive Director	NWOCA
X	Jessica Schuette, Superintendent	Holgate Local		Kate Huiskens	Fulton County Economic Development
X	Richie Peters, Superintendent	Liberty Center Local	X	Jim Drewes, VP Workforce Development	Northwest State Community College

*\*denotes item for membership vote*

1. Call to Order:
2. Introductions/Guests/New Members
3. \*NwOESC BAC Meeting Minutes Review and Approval
  - a. A motion to approve the minutes of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council meeting held on December 12, 2023, was made by Eric Belcher and second by Nate Johnson.
4. \*NwOESC BAC Annual Report/Joint Statement March 1, 2024:
  - a. A motion to approve the Annual Report/Joint Statement of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council March 1, 2024, was made by Jennifer Arps and second by Nicole Wells.
5. Education Spotlight:
  - a. Laura Mears - Wapakoneta Schools Career Counselor, virtually discussed the Wapakoneta Internship Networking (WIN) program. Starting in 2020 with 13 students, they now have 74 students in the program. Students must have two back-to-back study halls Monday through Friday to participate in the internship and may participate for one and/or two semesters. Each student earns one half credit for 60 hours. Both student and parent signed agreements are required. Participating businesses include hospitals, veterinary clinics, churches, courthouses, offices, etc. Most internships are unpaid with a few exceptions. A video highlighting some of the students and business owners/employees was shown.
    - i. District News from Aaron Rex Jan. 2023: *For the last three years seniors at WHS have had the opportunity to take part in the WIN (Networking and Internship) program. Each year we have witnessed the program grow, but more importantly we have been able to see our students get so many valuable experiences directly in the field. These young people are working with attorneys, accountants, medical professionals, our police force, manufacturing settings, and more. Due to these experiences, they have been able to gain scholarships, have college paid for, they have been offered jobs, but most importantly they have insight into what post high school employment can look like.*
6. Business Spotlight:
  - a. Steve Frazier - Piping Industry Training Center Retired Pipe Fitter: Curriculum Specialist and Instructor - Northwest Ohio Piping Industry shared the information he presents to local 8<sup>th</sup> graders including benefits and wages currently earned in 17 skilled trades (Journeyman). He discussed the Training Center located in Northwood Ohio offering a five-year program available to adults possessing a HS diploma and results of a General Aptitude Test given by the Center. Upon graduation, the student will have completed 2200 hours, have no debt, and obtained their Journeyman's card.
    - i. Comprised of more than 1,400 highly trained and skilled journeymen and apprentices, the Northwest Ohio Piping Industry provides plumbing, pipefitting, welding, and HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) service to meet the residential and commercial needs throughout the 12 counties of Northwest Ohio.
7. Discussion Items/Updates
  - a. AMC (Advanced Manufacturing Consortium) will have Mini Manufacturing Day Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and their annual meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> with Generational Expert, Mark Perna, as keynote speaker.
  - b. STEM/STEAM; five local schools who competed in the Robotics Challenge will move on to the national event being held in April. Will be retiring all Legos and adding VEX equipment to the NwOESC/NWOCA STEAM Lab in partnership with the ESC

8. Member Updates:

- a. Defiance County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing:
  - i. Bus tours for staff were held recently. 65 staff attended.
  - ii. Summer Manufacturing Camp will be June 18-20 for MS students.
  
- b. Henry County Community Improvement Corporation Director Updates and Information Sharing:
  - i. In-Demand Jobs Day, May 9<sup>th</sup> at Napoleon High School
  - ii. Planning for Educator Bootcamp is underway.
  
- c. Williams County Economic Development Director Updates and Information Sharing:
  - i. Membership is up for WEDCO
  - ii. Staff is working on planning for Educator Bootcamp.
  
- d. Northwest State Community College Updates and Information Sharing:
  - i. Spring Break week of March 11-15
  - ii. OACAC College Fair March 5<sup>th</sup> included 40 colleges
  - iii. Preparing for May graduation
  
- e. Four County Career Center Updates and Information Sharing:
  - i. Expansion including two new labs to be move-in ready for the 2026-27 school year

9. Next Meeting:

- a. Tuesday, May 14, 2024
- b. Reach out to Mike Remer at [MRemer@nwoesc.org](mailto:MRemer@nwoesc.org) to volunteer for a spotlight!

10. \*Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting of the NwoESC Business Advisory Council was made by Eric Smola and second by Anthony Stevens. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.