



Providing Quality Services
Building Valued Partnerships

Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 6, 2025
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Northwest Ohio ESC
205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH 43502

	LAST	FIRST	AGENCY	POSITION		LAST	FIRST	AGENCY	POSITION
	Armstrong	Troy	Wauseon	Superintendent	X	Lake	Chris	Swanton	Superintendent
X	Arnold	Steve	Central Local	Superintendent	X	Lichty	Travis	Montpelier	Superintendent
X	Arps	Jennifer	Henry County CIC	Executive Director	X	Lorenzen	Abby	NwoESC	CFO/BAC Secretary
	Atkinson	Tori	NSCC/AMC	Executive Director	X	Mansel- Pleydell	John	NWOCA/STEAM/A MC	Supervisor
X	Becher	Brian	Ayersville	Superintendent	X	Morton	Robert	Defiance City	Superintendent
X	Belcher	Angie	Fayette	Superintendent	X	Peters	Richie	Liberty Center	Superintendent
X	Belcher	Erik	Napoleon	Superintendent	X	Rairigh	Mark	Bryan City	Superintendent
X	Biederstedt	Josh	Patrick Henry	Superintendent	X	Remer	Michael	NwoESC	Business-Education Liaison/Co-Chair
X	Burke	Jon	Pike Delta York	Superintendent	X	Rex	Chad	NwoESC/STEAM	Director
X	Bute	Michael	North Central	Superintendent	X	Riley	Steve	Millcreek-West Unity	Superintendent
X	Clark	Josh	Pettisville	Superintendent	X	Schuette	Jessica	Holgate	Superintendent
	Cooke	LuAnne	Lt. Governor's Office	Regional Liaison	X	Selgo	Jayson	Archbold	Superintendent
X	Countryman	Keith	Hicksville	Superintendent	X	Slattery	Jeff	Four County Career Center	Superintendent
	Drewes	Jim	NSCC	Director of Workforce	X	Smola	Eric	Evergreen	Superintendent
X	Epling	Ashley	Williams County ED	Executive Director		Stevens	Anthony	Edon	Superintendent
X	Wyse	Jim	Fulton County ED	Executive Director	X	Weir	Kerri	NwoESC	Superintendent/Co- Chair
X	Stantz	Jennifer	Williams County ED	Assistant Director	X	Wells	Nicole	Northeastern	Superintendent
X	Hernandez	Todd	NSCC	President		Wesche	Paige	Defiance County ED	Assistant Executive Director
	Hoops	James	Ohio House District 81	Representative		Wilhelm	Ben	Edgerton	Superintendent
X	Hug	Tod	NWOCA	Executive Director		Willitzer	Erika	Defiance County ED	Executive Director
X	Huiskens	Katie	Fulton County ED	Ops & Strategic Initiatives	X	Ziegler	Kylie	Henry County CIC	Administrative Assistant
X	Hunter	Andrew	NwoESC/STEAM	Director/Co- Chair					
	Johnson	Nate	Stryker	Superintendent					

Breakfast and Networking 8:45 – 9:00

**denotes item for membership vote*

1. **Call to Order: 9:00**
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 March 11, 2025 was made by Michael Bute and second by Jayson Selgo. Motion passed.
4. ***NwoESC BAC Meeting Schedule for 2025-26:**
 - a. A motion to approve the meeting schedule for the 2025-26 school year was made by Joshua Clark and second by Richard Peters. Motion passed.
5. **Business and Education Spotlight Planning for 2025-26;**
 - 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
9/16/2025		
12/16/2025		
March TBD		
5/5/2026		

6. **Spotlight Pettisville Schools Robotic Automation and Additive Manufacturing – Mr. Greg Waidelich**
 - a. John MP opened the spotlight with a brief review of the STEAM Lab and Kits made available through an NwoESC/NWOCA partnership. John then introduced Mr. Waidelich of the Pettisville District, and indicated it was the district’s first year participating in a robotics competition. The students shared and demonstrated various robots they had created and explained what they were programmed to do.
7. **Spotlight New Fulton County Economic Development Director goals and objectives for continued growth in Fulton County – Mr. Jim Wyse**
 - a. Mike Remer introduced Mr. Jim Wyse, who recently took on the Director position at FCED, replacing Matt Gilroy.
 - b. Mr. Wyse shared his background and experience with the group, and his excitement on taking over the leadership position in Fulton County.
 - c. Mr. Wyse noted that job growth depends on aligning housing availability with workforce development.

- d. Mr. Wyse mentioned that they are still searching for teachers to sign up for the educator bootcamp where they will visit employers and learn hands-on what skills are needed for employees in the area.

8. Spotlight Bryan City Schools CEO Day - Karyn Cox, Mark Rairigh, Steve Alspaugh, and Student Representatives

- a. Bryan City Schools shared about their senior interview experience, CEO Day, designed to prepare students for life after high school, whether their next step is college, trade school, or entering the workforce. The day features motivational speakers, workshops, and hands-on activities that build confidence and career-readiness. A key part of the program is the interview component, where seniors take part in practice interviews focused on their post-graduation plans and personal strengths. This experience gives students the opportunity to refine their communication skills, receive constructive feedback, and approach their future with greater preparation and confidence. Several students demonstrated their skills for the attendees.

9. HB 96 Discussion/Implications - Cap on General Fund Carryover Balances

- a. House Bill 96 proposes to place a 30% cap on school district general fund carryover balances. While intended to limit reserve growth, this change would force districts exceeding the cap to reduce millage, creating financial instability for schools and local governments. The measure also undermines economic development tools such as Tax Increment Financing, potentially leaving infrastructure projects underfunded and introducing uncertainty for private developers. For homeowners, the bill could trigger year-to-year tax fluctuations—sometimes called the “seesaw effect”—that impact mortgage escrows and property values. Rural districts, already at the 20-mill floor, may face pressure to seek new levies, further eroding long-term planning and flexibility. In the bigger picture, HB 96 introduces financial risk and unpredictability that could hinder collaboration, investment, and growth across Ohio communities.

10. Member Updates:

- a. Henry County Community Improvement Corporation Director Updates and Information Sharing: Jennifer Arps shared that Educator Bootcamp will be held in early June, and expressed appreciation for those who have assisted in the planning and coordination.
- b. Northwest State Community College Updates and Information Sharing: Tod Hernandez shared that NSCC is looking to continue the CCP textbook reimbursements to districts. The same process as prior year is underway.

11. Next Meeting:

- a. **Tuesday, September 16, 2025** location TBD – Breakfast and Networking at 8:45

- 12. *Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn the meeting of the NWOESC Business Advisory Council was made by Steve Arnold and second by Erik Belcher. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.