



**Providing Quality Services**  
*Building Valued Partnerships*

**Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council  
 Meeting Minutes  
 Tuesday, December 16, 2025  
 8:45 – 11:10**

**LOCATION: North Star BlueScope Steel; 9627 US-20A, Delta, OH 43515**

	Last	First	Agency	Position		Last	First	Agency	Position
X	Armstrong	Troy	Wauseon	Superintendent	X	Lorenzen	Abby	NwoESC	CFO/BAC Secretary
	Arps	Jennifer	Henry County CIC	Executive Director	X	Mansel-Pleydell	John	NWOCA/STEAM/AMC	Supervisor
	Atkinson	Tori	NSCC/AMC	Executive Director		Morton	Robert	Defiance City	Superintendent
X	Becher	Brian	Ayersville	Superintendent	X	Peters	Richie	Liberty Center	Superintendent
X	Belcher	Angie	Fayette	Superintendent	X	Rairigh	Mark	Bryan City	Superintendent
X	Belcher	Erik	Napoleon	Superintendent	X	Remer	Michael	NwoESC	Business-Ed Liaison/Co-Chair
X	Biederstedt	Josh	Patrick Henry	Superintendent		Rex	Chad	NwoESC/STEAM	Director
	Boehm	Cara	Defiance County ED	Director of Bus Devel & Mkting	X	Riley	Steve	Millcreek WU	Superintendent
X	Brodie	Lori	Regional Rep	US Senator Husted off	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
X	Epling	Ashley	Williams County ED	Executive Director	X	Weir	Kerri	NwoESC	Supt./Co-Chair
X	Ford	Doug	Pike Delta York	Superintendent		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	X	Wyse	Jim	Fult County ED	Executive Director
X	Hunter	Andrew	NwoESC/STEAM	Director/Co-Chair		Ziegler	Kylie	Hen County CIC	Admin Assistant
X	Johnson	Nate	Stryker	Superintendent	X	Snider	Lana	NSCC	College Rep.
X	Keesee	Alan	Central Local	Superintendent					
	Kohv	Kelly	Fulton County ED	Admin Assistant					
X	Lake	Chris	Swanton	Superintendent					
	Lichty	Travis	Montpelier	Superintendent					

## **Breakfast and Networking 8:45 – 9:00**

*\*denotes item for membership vote*

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

### **2. Roll Call; 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 September 16, 2025 was made by Nate Johnson and second by Jeff Slattery. Motion Passed.

### **4. Business Spotlight: North Star BlueScope Steel**

*A huge thank you to **North Star BlueScope Steel** for hosting our BAC meeting! They provided a wonderful breakfast and lunch for all who attended.*

- Mr. Cam Thoroughman, Vice President of Human Resources, welcomed the group and provided a safety overview.
- Participants then split into two groups for the following activities:
- **1) Information session and team-building activity**

Conrad Winkler, CEO, shared an overview of NSBSS, including its history, focus, and culture. BlueScope is an Australian-based company that produces hot rolled coil steel in Delta on a 700-acre campus, with additional sites across Ohio and the nation. Delta is an ideal location in the industrial heartland.
- He emphasized that the company culture centers on safety, teamwork, customer service, and being community focused. NSBSS produces steel at a significant scale, approximately the equivalent of 10,000 cars' worth of scrap is processed each day to meet demand. The scrap-sorting process is complex, and the company uses AI to improve material identification and quality. AI is also used in areas such as accounts payable, customer order entry, and process refinement.
- Co-op students - often from the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University - contribute ideas to improve systems and processes. NSBSS is also considering a new satellite program with NSCC to help build workforce skills.
- A key goal is to develop a well-trained, qualified workforce that can achieve upper-middle-class earnings through strong compensation. The hiring process is multi-step and may include a phone interview, video interview, and an on-site assessment that includes group teamwork.

Skills emphasized include problem-solving, safety mindset, attention to detail, strong work ethic, ethics, and a positive attitude.

- To reinforce teamwork, participants completed a timed challenge: using a deck of cards and scissors, teams competed to build the tallest freestanding structure in 10 minutes.
- **2) Facility tour**  
NSBSS staff led participants on a tour of the facility. Everyone wore required personal protective equipment (hard hats, safety glasses, vests, and gloves). The tour provided a close-up look at the full steel coil production process and was informative throughout.
- At the conclusion of the visit, the NSBSS team thanked participants for touring the facility and learning more about their work. Cam Thoroughman shared that NSBSS is interested in building stronger relationships with area K-12 districts, including opportunities such as modified tours and mini career fairs. We look forward to supporting and seeing this partnership develop.

## **5. Membership Updates:**

- a. John Mansel-Pleydell talked about a \$30,000 GM grant received by the AMC to purchase robotics equipment for competitions which included VEX IQ League kits and fields for JH students, some pre-apprenticeship programs, and 5th and 6th Grade Manufacturing Day in March.
- b. Ashley Epling discussed two grants they are submitting an application for from the State of Ohio - one for infrastructure and the other for housing.
- c. LuAnne Cooke mentioned that funding is available for Bootcamps again this year. Colleges can apply for \$250,000.
- d. Kerri Weir and Jeff Slattery discussed a grant for career technical education that has been awarded regionally to help meet the MS career tech requirements. 4CCC and NwOESC are part of the Career Pathways Support Network. More information will be shared as work progresses.

## **6. Next Meeting:**

- a. **Tuesday, March 3, 2026**
- b. Location – Northwest State Community College
- c. In lieu of a formal meeting, all will be encouraged to attend the Advanced Manufacturing Coalition (AMC) Annual Meeting, being held at Northwest State Community College (tentative 11:30 – 3:00). The meeting will provide great information for both the education and business sectors.
- d. Registration information will be shared with the NwOESC membership

7. **\*Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn the meeting of the NwOESC Business Advisory Council was made by Troy Armstrong and second by Chris Lake. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.