Business Advisory Council
Joint Statement
2018

North Point Educational Service Center

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NPESC’S BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Membership

The new Business Advisory Council (BAC) of the North Point Educational Service Center (NPESC) was established in the fall of 2018. The BAC’s Steering Committee is comprised of twelve members representing education, business and the economic directors of each county in the NPESC service region of Erie, Huron, Ottawa and Sandusky counties.

Meeting Dates

NPESC’s BAC has met on the following dates: October 17, 2018 and December 19, 2018. The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2019. NPESC’s BAC Plan and minutes of each meeting can be found at the following link: https://npesc.socs.net/vnews/display.v/ART/5bbe47943d9e7

Partnering School Districts

Erie County: Edison Local, EHOVE Career Center, Huron City, Kelleys Island, Margareta Local, Perkins Local, Sandusky Central Catholic, Sandusky City, Vermilion Local

Huron County: Bellevue City, Monroeville Local, New London Local, Norwalk Catholic, Norwalk City, South Central Local, Western Reserve Local, Willard City

Ottawa County: Danbury Local, Genoa Area Local, Middle Bass Island, North Bass Island, Port Clinton City, Put-in-Bay Local

Sandusky County: Clyde-Green Springs Exempted Village, Gibsonburg Exempted Village, Lakota Local, Woodmore Local

The mission of the North Point Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council is to engage the business and education communities to understand and support the educational and employment needs within the service region of Erie, Huron, Ottawa and Sandusky Counties.

Getting the Work Done: Sub-Committee Structure

The NPESC BAC is maximizing impact by operating unique activities and initiatives organized and managed by sub-committees in each county. Each sub-committee is made up of key business leaders, school personnel, economic directors, and other community-based partners unique to each county.
B.A.C. OF ERIE COUNTY

Membership

A Steering Committee has been established made up of school superintendents (8 public, 1 parochial, and 1 joint vocational), key business leaders, and government & community-based partners. A Chairman and a Vice-Chairman have been elected. The Erie County Community Foundation is serving as the fiscal agent for this sub-committee.

Meeting Dates (Past 12 Months):

- February 22, 2019 (Steering Committee)
- February 4, 2019
- December 17, 2018 (Steering Committee)
- December 3, 2018
- April 20, 2018

Specific Activities Conducted

- Stakeholder feedback on priorities for the upcoming year was solicited in a joint meeting held on Dec. 3, 2018. A total of 43 representatives from education, business, and community sectors came together and divided into small “work” groups (High School, Middle School, Elementary and Community Awareness) to brainstorm and establish priorities for BAC.
- The first priorities are:
  - Teacher Professional Development
  - OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal Awareness Campaign
  - Communications Campaign to promote awareness of BAC’s purpose and mission.
- The work groups met on Feb. 4, 2019 to further refine goals and develop action steps.
- The Steering Committee met on Feb. 22, 2019 to prioritize the work groups’ recommendations and begin implementation of the initiatives.

Mission Statement: Cultivating relationships and enhancing connections between the business and education communities to understand ongoing opportunities and implement support strategies.

Why Statement: To empower businesses, students, and communities so their futures can thrive together.
B.A.C. OF HURON COUNTY

Membership

A Steering Committee has been established made up of school superintendents (7 public, 1 parochial, and 1 joint vocational), business leaders and community- based partners. Two co-chairmen have been elected. The fiscal agent for this sub-committee is the Norwalk Economic Development Council.

Meeting Dates (Past 12 Months):

- February 1, 2019
- January 18, 2019
- December 10, 2018
- September 13, 2018
- July 12, 2018
- May 10, 2018

The mission of the Huron County Business Advisory Council is to engage the business and education communities to understand and support the educational and employment needs within our county, while partnering with local and regional governmental entities and community leaders to ignite students to develop better futures for themselves and their communities.

Specific Activities Conducted

- Representatives from the Huron County BAC met with Ohio Means Jobs and the Ohio Department of Education regarding creating an employer profile. This employer profile is imperative so parents, students and teachers know what businesses exist in their community, what they do, if there are any student opportunities (job shadow, internships, tours etc.) and what jobs they have. This ‘employer profile’ was approved to be developed in 2019. Ohio Means Jobs will utilize Huron County as a pilot county to help employers build their templates so when the profiles go live for the state there is an example of what a robust profile looks like.
- Stakeholder feedback on priorities for the upcoming year was solicited in a joint meeting held on January 18, 2019. A total of 58 representatives from education, business, and community-based agencies came together in small groups (High School, Middle School, Elementary and Community Awareness) to brainstorm and establish priorities for BAC.
- The Steering Committee is scheduled to meet on March 13, 2019 to prioritize the ideas from the Stakeholder groups.
B.A.C. OF OTTAWA COUNTY

Membership

The Ottawa County Business Advisory Council (BAC) was established in the summer of 2014 as a means for business leaders and K-12 educational leaders to partner together to understand and support employment needs within Ottawa County. The council became a sub-committee of NPESC’s BAC in 2018. Members of the Ottawa County BAC consist of representatives from education (superintendents and principals), business leaders for Ottawa County’s leading industry sectors and local community partners like the Ottawa County Improvement Corporation (OCIC) and United Way in Ottawa County.

The council has elected officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary). The Ottawa County Improvement Corporation is the fiscal agent for this council.

Meeting Dates (Past 12 Months):

- February 1, 2019 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- December 7, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- October 29, 2018 (All BAC and All School Board Members Dinner)
- September 28, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- August 3, 3018 (Planning & Strategy Meeting)
- June 1, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- April 6, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)

The mission of the Ottawa County Business Advisory Council is to engage the business and education communities to understand and support the educational and employment needs within Ottawa County.

Specific Activities Conducted

- The Ottawa County Career Showcase was held on October 4, 2018. A total of 505 freshmen from all of the school districts in Ottawa County participated. Thirty-two career representatives representing all of the major industry sectors in the county participated in this experience.

- High School Junior and Senior students have an opportunity to earn high school credits for participating in Ottawa County’s Career Engagement Opportunities (CEO) Internship Program. The CEO Internship program provides students with a pathway between school and work. Students develop entry level skills in a specific occupation, practice career management, and prepare for employment all while earning high
At total of 21 students have participated in the CEO program since 2016.

- The “Ottawa County: It’s All Here” workforce attraction campaign is part of the Ottawa County Business Advisory Council’s initiative to remind high school students and alumni that they can build their future here in Ottawa County. The campaign officially kicked off in September 2018 with the help of area juniors and seniors who assisted in designing the website: www.ocitsallhere.com.

- The Ottawa County REACH Program was first introduced for the 2018-2019 school year, and is currently being used in two of the six school districts. The REACH Program is designed to introduce 4th and 5th grade elementary school students to the workforce by allowing business representatives to visit the students on a monthly basis. Students learn about the types of jobs available at these businesses. A curriculum book is utilized by each business representative (developed by the Education Department of The Ohio State University) to present a series of lessons, reinforced by hands-on activities, such as a visit to the business location. These lessons are designed to encourage students to develop life skills that will assist in preparing them to join the workforce in the future.

- An Ottawa County Teacher Manufacturing Bootcamp is scheduled for June 2019. A total of 30 teachers and/or school counselors will be selected for participation. Participating teachers will tour six manufacturing companies in the county and create a culminating project to summarize their experience and share how the information gleaned from the tours will transform their experiences with students in their classrooms.

- Visit https://ocic.biz/workforce/ocbac/ for more information on the Ottawa County BAC.
B.A.C. OF SANDUSKY COUNTY

Membership

This council has an active membership made up of school superintendents (6 public, 1 parochial, and 1 joint vocational), school personnel, key business leaders from a variety of industry sectors, many community partners (Sandusky County Chamber of Commerce, DJFS, Sandusky County Economic Development Corp), and the President of Terra Community College.

Meeting Dates (Past 12 Months):

- February 1, 2019 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- November 6, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- August 7, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- May 8, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)
- February 6, 2018 (Steering Committee Meeting)

Specific Activities Conducted

- The “THINK Sandusky County” High School Senior Job Fair was held on March 23, 2018. A total of 153 seniors representing 6 school districts in the county attended this event.
- Tisha Lewis, from the Ohio Department of Education, provided an overview of the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal to the BAC Steering Committee on August 7, 2018.
- The “THINK Sandusky County” Manufacturing Career Showcase was held on October 3, 2018. A total of 650 high school students representing 5 school districts and two private schools from Sandusky County attended.
- The Sandusky County Chamber of Commerce provided an update to the Steering Committee members on the “BRIDGE Program” website and encouraged business leaders to post updated job shadow and internship opportunities on this site.
- The “THINK Sandusky County” Bus Tour is scheduled for school administrators, teachers and school counseling staff from all districts in the county on May 9, 2019. A total of 6 sites will be visited on this day, which includes stops at manufacturing, health care and agriculture companies.
- A Sandusky County Teacher Manufacturing Bootcamp is scheduled for June 2019. A total of 24 teachers and/or school counselors will be selected for participation. Participating teachers will tour six manufacturing companies in the county and create a culminating project to summarize their experience and share how the information gleaned from the tours will transform their experiences with students in their classrooms.
COUNCIL’S ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The nature of the council’s advice and recommendations on needed employment skills and curriculum development to instill those skills:

Across all four counties, the councils have indicated that the most needed employment skills are soft skills, such as good work ethic, collaboration, responsibility, problem-solving, etc. The councils are working to promote more awareness of the Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal within school districts, business leaders, community and parent groups. The councils are creating goals, strategies and support to help each school implement the Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal skills into their curriculum in order to better develop these soft skills among students entering the workforce.

The nature of the council’s advice and recommendations on economic and job market changes and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available:

Each county’s BAC has the Economic Director as a key leader of the council. All four Economic Directors serve on the NPESC’s BAC. The directors provide regular updates about the employment rates of the county and workforce needs and trends. Currently in each of the four counties, skill trades, manufacturing and nursing/nursing assistants remain as “in demand” careers.

The nature of the council’s advice and suggestions for developing working relationships among businesses, labor organizations and educational personnel:

The councils of each county have solid representation from the business community and educational personnel in order to develop relationships among these stakeholders. Additionally, local community partners are key members of each council. Some of these community partners include: Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Corporations, United Way, Job & Family Services and County Commissioners. These strong partnerships, focused meetings with clear agendas and common goals are the glue which is providing avenues for business and educational leaders to increase communication, identify contacts, and build opportunities for students.