



Educational Service Center
of Lorain County

Lorain County Business Advisory Committee Educational Service Center of Lorain County

February 26, 2019

Meeting Minutes

In attendance

School District Reps: Graig Bansek, Jim Barnhart, Tom Barone, Jerome Davis, Glenn Faircloth, Roxann Caserio, Steve Sayers, Mike Von Gunten, Mike Laub, Ed Weber, Bruce Willingham, Dan White, Ann Scholss, Franco Gallo, Matt Yunker, Jacob Carmany, Moira Erwine, Dave Hall, Rob Showalter

Business/Community Representatives: Ray Anthony, Jennifer Bracken, Tony Gallo, Dave Fox, Michelle Henes, Cindy Kushner, Mike Longo, Rich Moreck, Victoria Mowbray, Scott Radcliffe, Robyn Ringwall, Chad Schneider, Amy Szmania.

The meeting began with a review of the why we are meeting. We meet:

- To *advise* local school districts on changes in the economy and job market and the area in which future jobs are most likely available.
- To *advocate* for the employment skills most critical to business and industry and the development of curriculum to teach these skills.
- To *aid* and *support* local school districts by offering suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations, and educators.

The links for the agenda is: <https://tinyurl.com/BAC2-26-19>

A discussion occurred regarding the feedback from the past meeting and how the skills deemed necessary mirrored the Ohio Means Jobs Professional Skills. The group reviewed the skills and took an electronic poll to support the initiative in the schools. The poll showed virtually unanimous to support the initiative.

Below are the links to the information discussed.

Students need experiences focused on job skills [1/15 Feedback](#)



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[Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Skills](#)

The group reviewed the in-demand jobs in Northeast Ohio and across the state. They discussed trends that are projected by 2024. Many were surprised by the projections at the loss of jobs in manufacturing due to automation. Below are the links to the information shared.

In Demand Careers in Ohio: [In Demand Career Job Postings](#) [In Demand Jobs in Ohio](#)
In Demand Careers NEO: [In Demand NEO Projections](#)

Ideas for how businesses and schools can partner were shared. Many were interested in job shadowing, having guest speakers visit schools, internship opportunities, and participation in themed weeks such as “manufacturing month” and “in demand jobs week.” A poll was taken to determine what activities appealed to the BAC members. The results are attached and the links and sites used are below:

Partnership Ideas: [How Educators Can Partner](#) [How Businesses Can Partner](#)
In Demand Jobs Week: [Link to In Demand Jobs Week Info](#)

A rough draft of the joint statement was shared. Mr. Gallo asked for feedback from the members regarding the statement. The statement, listed below, will be placed on the ESC’s website by March 1st.

Joint Statement

Lorain County Business Advisory Council

The Lorain County Business Advisory Council has met three times to date and has a future meeting scheduled for April 17 to conclude the 2018-19 school year. Specifically the council met on October 23, 2018, January 15, 2019, and February 26, 2019. In attendance were the superintendent or designee of thirteen of the Lorain County school districts and the Joint Vocational School, representatives from Lorain County Community College, the Lorain County Chamber of Commerce, Lorain County Workforce Development Board-Ohio Means Jobs, and a business representative from the majority of our school districts. The meetings were facilitated by the ESC of Lorain County.

Participants had in depth discussions regarding the skills necessary to be successful in the workforce, the programming currently available in our communities, ideas which businesses and schools can collaborate, and current workforce data. While discussing the skills needed to be successful in the workforce, the council determined students must be equipped with strong soft skills, be critical



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thinkers, drug free, and excellent communicators. Because these skills mirror the skills outlined in the Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal criteria. The council agreed to promote and support the Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal Pathway and its professional skills in our schools.

Based on these discussions, the council made the following recommendations:

- 1) Businesses must create jobs with attractive pay and benefits to attract and retain employees with the skills they desire.*
- 2) Schools must develop partnerships and provide opportunities to be exposed to career education, job shadowing, and internship opportunities.*
- 3) The council plans to participate in the "In-Demand Jobs Week" initiative.*

The council reviewed the in-demand jobs in Northeast Ohio and the state of Ohio. School district leaders will use this data to drive future decision making. The future meetings of the council will focus on developing a mission and vision for the council and to create subcommittees to carry out the mission and vision. The goal of the work is to develop thriving partnerships with local businesses and school districts.

The meeting concluded at 9:30.

The next meeting is April 17th at 8:00