



educational service center
of Central Ohio



Business Advisory Council

2024-2025



ESC of Central Ohio's Business Advisory Council

Our Story

In 2011, the Central Ohio Compact was established, convened by the ESC of Central Ohio and Columbus State Community College. It included public and private districts and schools, higher education institutions, industry partners, and other stakeholders. Through this regional approach, the Compact created



a model of collaboration focused on increasing college success for Central Ohio students and positioning the region as a leader in economic growth, per-capita income, and quality of life.

Soon after, the state of Ohio passed House Bill 59 requiring each school district to appoint a business advisory council (BAC) to convene education and business leaders to engage in dialogue, build trust, and identify strategies that transform the student learning experience. To provide flexibility and allow for regional approaches similar to the Compact, school districts were given the option of entering into an agreement with an educational service center (ESC)-led council instead. During those early years, the ESC of Central Ohio's BAC was composed of 18 workforce partners and 18 school district partners. This was seeded by the work of the Compact, focusing on student skills development, changes in the economy and job market, and strengthening relationships among business, labor organizations, and education personnel.

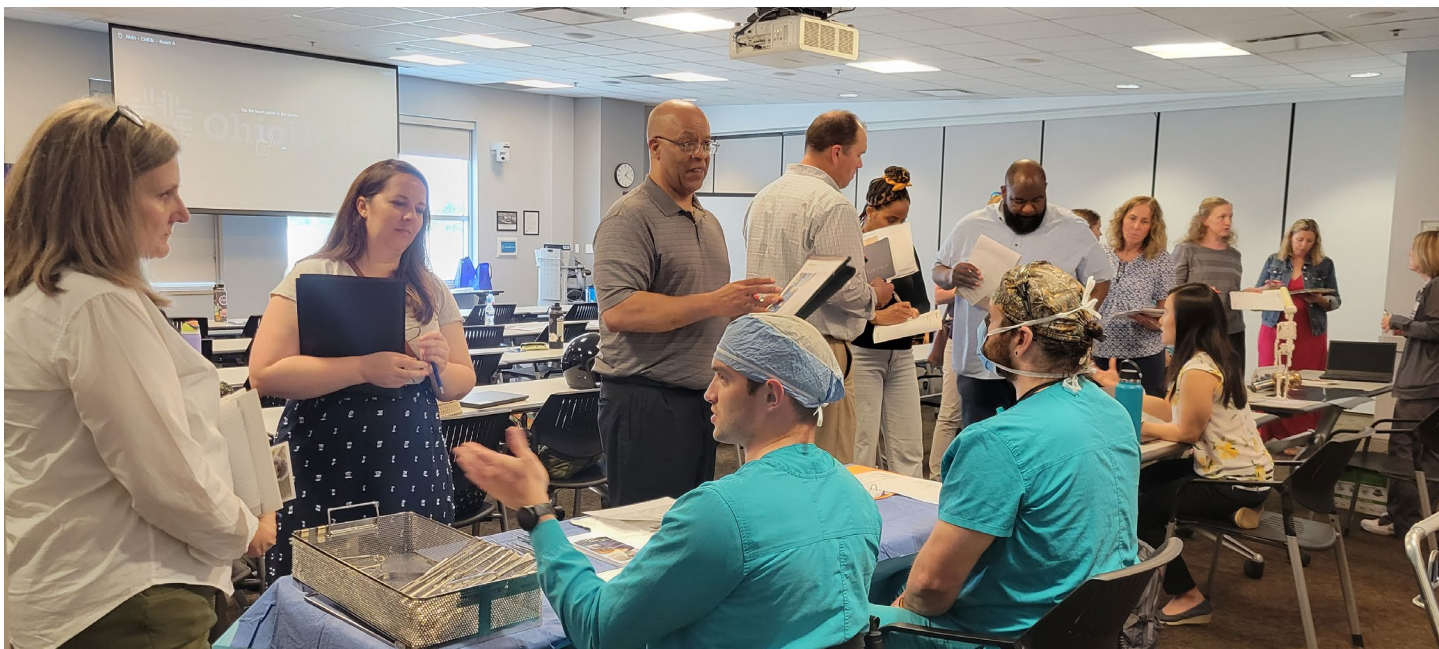
Fast forward to 2024 and the ESC of Central Ohio's Business Advisory Council now comprises of 31 school districts and career technical centers and over 130 community, business, and government partners. The goals of the BAC center around developing professional skills for all students in future careers, building partnerships among all members, and creating coordinated experiences for students. Additionally, the BAC focuses on networking and providing support as the workforce landscape of the Central Ohio region continues to expand, ensuring a robust workforce that has the education and training to meet current and future demands.

BAC Mission

To leverage regional partnerships to connect all students with career opportunities and support workforce development in Central Ohio.

BAC Vision

To make Central Ohio a leader in workforce innovation, equipping all students with the skills and connections for career success.



2024-2025 BAC Meeting Schedule		
October 17, 2024	9:00-10:30 – Main Meeting	10:30-11:30 Focus Committee Work*
December 12, 2024	9:00-10:30 – Main Meeting	10:30-11:30 Focus Committee Work*
February 20, 2025	9:00-10:30 – Main Meeting	10:30-11:30 Focus Committee Work*
April 17, 2025	9:00-10:30 – Main Meeting	10:30-11:30 Focus Committee Work*

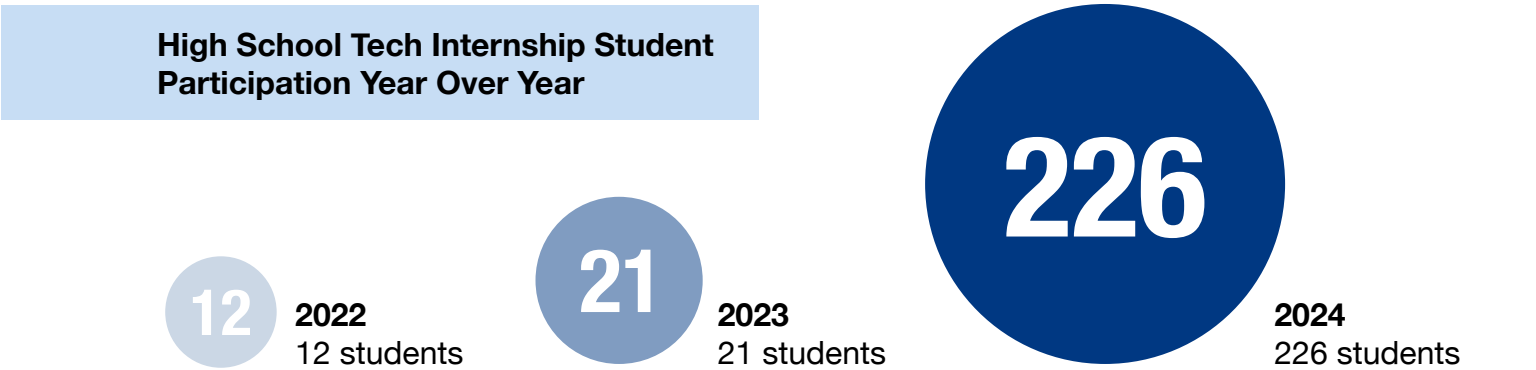
**Focus Committee Work will be facilitated by K-12 and Business leaders around the topics of Developing Professional Skills, Building Partnerships, and Coordinating Experiences. Additional meetings will be scheduled as programming is developed throughout the 2024-2025 school year.*

Regional Strategy

To meet the wide-ranging needs of BAC members, the ESC has adopted a regional strategy to leverage and connect with ongoing efforts across Central Ohio. This work is conducted in partnership with the Central Ohio Compact, Workforce Development Boards, the New Skills for Youth Initiative, the Central Ohio Pre-Apprenticeship Hub, non-profit organizations, area chambers of commerce, and workforce development agencies. Regional programs and plans have been developed to expose students to in-demand careers, scale internship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities, support mentoring programs that connect students directly with business and industry mentors, and provide professional development opportunities and technical assistance.

To showcase this regional alignment, the BAC worked with various local and state organizations focused on increasing awareness and opportunities for students. Highlighted in this plan are the High School Teach Internship Initiative from the 2023-2024 school year, Careers2Classrooms educator workforce bootcamp, and Industry Sector Partnership Events. These examples would not have been possible without our K-12 and business members collaborating to create unique Central Ohio experiences for all stakeholders.

High School Tech Internship: The ESC, in partnership with BridgED, applied for and received a High School Tech Internship Intermediary Grant through the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation. This grant covered the administration, marketing, recruitment, and curriculum for the industry-recognized credential CompTIA IT Fundamentals for student interns. A total of 226 student interns were placed in 76 BAC businesses, representing a 985% increase in participants compared to the 2022-2023 school year in Central Ohio.

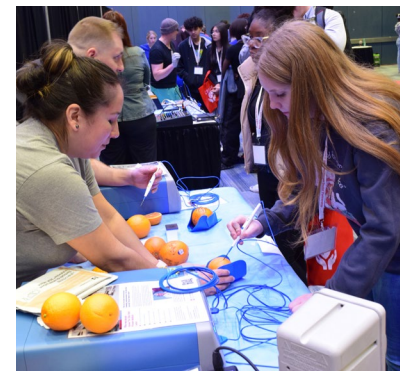


Careers2Classrooms Teach Workforce Bootcamp: In partnership with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the ESC expanded the Careers2Classrooms Educator Workforce Boot Camp in Central Ohio for K-12 educators from 17 in 2023 to 48 in 2024, a 65% increase in capacity and participation. In 2022-2023, educators engaged with seven industry partners within four industry sectors (construction, healthcare, manufacturing, and technology) over five days to learn essential skills for the emerging workforce. In 2023-2024, 20 school districts participated, including 11 new participants. We increased the industry partnerships to 14 and expanded industry sectors offered by 50%, adding bioscience, energy, supply chain and logistics, and transportation. Educators learned about in-demand jobs and workforce entry points for students post-graduation. The goal is for educators to integrate lesson plans, projects, and professional development into their classrooms to better connect career opportunities with classroom content. Educators presented their capstones to their building administrators, community members, business partners, and elected officials for feedback.

Industry Sector Partnership Events

Central Ohio Healthcare Sector Partnership (COHSP) March 7, 2024: The COHSP event brought together six regional healthcare providers (Central Ohio Primary Care, Mount Carmel Health System, Nationwide Children's Hospital, OhioHealth, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, and PrimaryOne Health) for a first of its kind event in Central Ohio. Over 1,100 high school freshmen students attended this event featuring in-demand jobs in the healthcare industry. The featured careers were respiratory therapist, registered nurse, surgical technologist, radiology technologist, and certified medical assistant. Students engaged in interactive skills from each of these five priority careers.

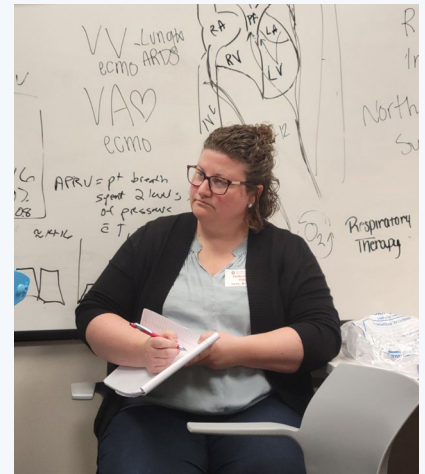
[You can watch the NBC4i segment on this event here.](#)



Central Ohio Construction Accelerator Partnership (COCAP) March 12, 2024: The BAC hosted a hands-on career exploration career fair for 75 high school juniors, seniors, and young adults in collaboration with the COCAP. This event focused on broadening the awareness of construction, engineering, skilled trades, registered apprenticeship enrollment and employment primarily for students within the Columbus City Schools.

Business Advisory Council Participants

- AT&T
- Advance Auto Parts
- American Electric Power
- Aspyr Workforce Innovation
- AWS InCommunities
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Capital City Trailers Inc.
- Cardinal Health
- Central Ohio Transit Authority
- CGI
- City Barbeque
- Columbus Chamber Foundation
- Columbus Chamber of Commerce
- Columbus Regional Airport Authority
- Community Shelter Board
- DriveOhio
- Ease
- EastIT
- EcoPlumbers
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
- Fluvitex USA
- FlyOhio
- Franklin County Job and Family Services
- FST Logistics
- G&J Pepsi
- Goodwill
- Hamilton Parker
- Honda
- Ignite Industrial Professionals
- Independent Electrical Contractors Central Ohio Chapter
- Kokosing Construction Company
- MedVet
- Mid-Ohio Food Collective
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- NetSteady
- NIFCO
- NiSource
- Ohio Contractors Association
- OhioHealth
- One Columbus
- OSA Technology Partners
- Otterbein University
- Path Robotics
- Performance Automotive Network
- PerryProTech
- R.T. Moore Mechanical Contractors
- Root Insurance
- Rosati Windows
- Roto
- State Support Team 11
- TechCorps
- The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
- The Rickenbacker Employer Assistance Network
- The Strait & Lamp Group
- Transfr
- Turner
- Wendy's
- Ingram-White Castle Foundation
- Worthington Industries
- Yellow Weld LLC

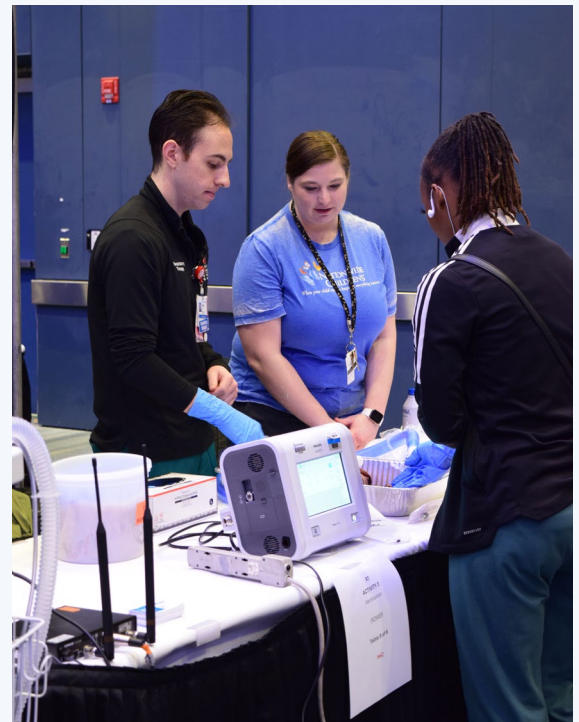


Benefits of the ESC's Business Advisory Council

Business advisory councils, mandated by law since 1995, offer significant benefits to every Ohio school district. The inclusion of business advisory standards in HB49 has heightened the state's focus on these councils, underscoring their vital role in today's economy.

The BAC will provide guidance to local school districts on economic and job market changes by:

- Identifying new and emerging careers
- Aligning career pathways with current careers
- Offering recommendations on necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies
- Advocating for effective curricula
- Providing work-based learning opportunities
- Advising on facilities and equipment needed for teaching work-based skills and career exploration
- Supporting local school districts by fostering collaborative relationships among businesses, labor organizations, and educators



Business Advisory Council Participants



2024-2025 ESC BAC Initiatives

The 2024-2025 Business Advisory Council will focus on three key quality practices:

- Developing Professional Skills for Future Careers
- Building Partnerships
- Coordinating Experiences

To achieve these objectives, the ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council (BAC) meets quarterly. Additionally, the BAC will establish work groups that include diverse student representation. These work groups will meet regularly after each quarterly meeting to advance the BAC's initiatives. All school districts and business partners will have the opportunity to engage with all initiatives unless a particular in-demand career sector is singled out for a particular event.


It should be noted that the ESC's BAC is focused on its mission and vision to include all students with the opportunities listed in the initiatives for the 2024-2025 school year. A focused effort will be made to reach, engage and serve targeted populations. Target populations include, but are not limited to, gender, economically disadvantaged, race, ethnicity, individuals with disabilities, foster youth, and English learners (EL).




Developing Professional Skills for Future Careers

Initiative 1


Conduct career pathway audits for interested BAC member school districts to exploring possibilities to expand work-based learning opportunities for all students.


 **Intended Outcome:** Creation of the “what” and “why” for non-funded, partial-funding, and fully-funded college and career pathways.

 **Data Measurement:** Number of audits conducted and instructional pathways and programs implemented.

Initiative 2


Explore and implement partnerships to provide simulated work-based learning experiences for students.


 **Intended Outcome:** Prepare students for real-world work experiences through high-quality simulations developed in collaboration with industry partners.

 **Data Measurement:** Measure student participation, skill improvement, satisfaction with simulations, and the establishment of relevant partnerships through a post-survey of participating youth.

Initiative 3

Provide regional educator professional development through the Central Ohio Career Readiness Council's (COCRC) monthly meetings and Central Ohio Workforce Readiness Collaborative (COWRC) Communities of Practice (CoP) centered on targeted populations.

 **Intended Outcome:** Identification of barriers and developing solutions for all students accessing work-based learning opportunities throughout their academic careers.

 **Data Measurement:** Number of meetings held, participants, barriers, and solutions implemented during the 2024-2025 school year.






Build Partnerships

Initiative 1


Coordinate with the Central Ohio Compact to facilitate committee work involving community, government, business, and K-12 partners.


 **Intended Outcome:** Enhance educational quality and workforce alignment in Central Ohio through collaborative efforts among community, government, business, and K-12 partners.

 **Data Measurement:** Measured through metrics such as partnership engagement, student performance, workforce readiness, community involvement, and continuous improvement feedback.

Initiative 2

Partner with Columbus Chamber of Commerce and 16 BAC businesses to hold the third annual Careers2Classroom Educator Workforce Boot Camp for 48 educators from Central Ohio school districts.

 **Intended Outcome:** Equip 48 Central Ohio educators with industry insights and practical skills through the third annual Careers2Classroom Educator Workforce Boot Camp in partnership with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and 16 BAC businesses.


 **Data Measurement:** Measured by tracking educator participation, feedback on the boot camp's effectiveness, and subsequent integration of industry knowledge into classroom teaching.



Initiative 3

Facilitate the expansion of youth pre-apprenticeships as part of the Central Ohio Pre-Apprenticeship Hub.


 **Intended Outcome:** Expand youth pre-apprenticeships within the Central Ohio Pre-Apprenticeship Hub to provide more students with hands-on training and career readiness.


 **Data Measurement:** Measured by tracking the number of new pre-apprenticeship opportunities created, student enrollment and completion rates, and post-program employment or further education placements.

Coordinate Experiences

Initiative 1


Develop systems to support student work-based experiences in multiple career fields.

 **Intended Outcome:** Develop systems to facilitate and support student work-based experiences across multiple career fields to enhance practical learning and career readiness.

 **Data Measurement:** Measured by tracking the number of work-based experiences offered, student participation rates, employer feedback, and student post-internship employment or educational advancements.

Initiative 2


Partner with healthcare and construction industry sector partnerships on student events and resources.


 **Intended Outcome:** Expose high school students in Central Ohio area to in-demand careers in the fields of healthcare and construction.

 **Data Measurement:** Number of events and students involved in the activities.

Initiative 3

Develop a regional Chamber of Commerce event to enhance networking and sharing of program information happening through area career technical centers, the ESC, industry sector partnerships, and individual businesses.

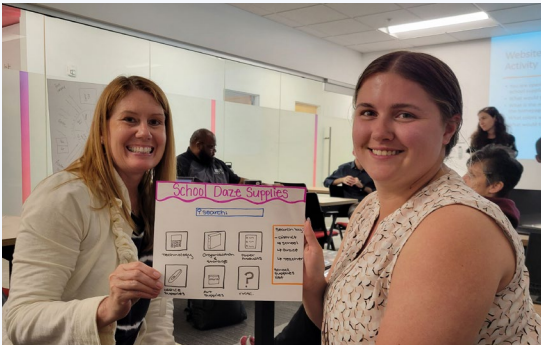
 **Intended Outcome:** Develop a regional Chamber of Commerce event to enhance networking and disseminate program information through area career technical centers, the ESC, industry sector partnerships, and individual businesses.

 **Data Measurement:** Measured by tracking event attendance, participant feedback, the number of new partnerships formed, and subsequent engagement in the highlighted programs.



Supplemental Work for BAC 2024-2025

- Enhance BAC plan and award application to have direct alignment with member school districts and resulting student outcomes.
- Revise BAC webpage to highlight three areas of focus and provide up-to-date data collected throughout the 2024-2025 school year.
- Create a membership experience/recognition program (plaque, certificates, other).



Resources

- ESC of Central Ohio: [Business Advisory Council](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Business Advisory Council | Parent & Community Awareness](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Educator Workforce Boot Camp](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Workforce Readiness Collaborative](#)
- Columbus State Community College: [Industry Demand & Engagement](#)
- ESC of Central Ohio: [Success Network](#)
- MORPC: [insight2050 Report](#)
- Ohio Department of Education and Workforce: [Business Advisory Councils in Ohio Schools](#)
- Ohio Department of Education and Workforce: [Ohio Business Advisory Councils – Next Steps](#)
- Ohio Laws & Rules: [Ohio Revised Code 3313.82: Business Advisory Councils](#)
- Ohio Laws & Rules: [Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4109 | Employment of Minors](#)
- [One Columbus](#)
- [Success Bound](#)

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