

Logan County Business Advisory Council – Joint Statement – 3/1/2020
A Subcommittee of the Logan County Collaborative

During the 2019-2020 school year, the following **school district personnel** have participated under the leadership of the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center in the Logan County Business Advisory Council:

- **Bellefontaine City Schools**
 - Superintendent: Brad Hall
 - Teacher: Katie Rychner
- **Benjamin Logan Local Schools**
 - Superintendent: Dave Harmon
 - High School Principal: Mark Butler
- **Indian Lake Local Schools**
 - Superintendent: Rob Underwood
 - High School Principal: Kyle Wagner
- **Riverside Local Schools**
 - Superintendent: Scott Mann
 - High School Principal: Kelly Kauffman
- **Midwest Regional ESC:**
 - Superintendent: Scott Howell
 - Youth Development Liaison: Karen Sorreles

The Logan County Business Advisory Council is made up of the following representative businesses and agencies:

- AGC Glass Company – North America
- Belle Springs Nursing and Rehabilitation
- Belltech Corporation
- Clark State Community College
- Logan County Chamber of Commerce
- Logan County Commissioners
- Mary Rutan Hospital
- Richwood Bank
- RTC Services
- World Class Plastics
- Ohio Means Jobs

The mission of the Logan County Business Advisory Council is

to create a partnership between Logan County businesses, Logan County/City schools, and the educational service center that will enhance communication between the business and educational community and will augment educational opportunities for students in the community by providing information, instruction, and training that will help to establish and sustain a talented workforce in Logan County.

The purpose of the Logan County Business Advisory Council is to

1. Delineate employment skills and to develop curriculum to instill the identified employment skills.
2. Explore and understand changes in the economy and job market, and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available.
3. Develop a working relationship among business, labor and education personnel.

During the 2019-2020 school year, the Logan County Business Advisory Council has met (or will meet) on the dates listed below.

- August 26, 2019
- September 23, 2019
- October 28, 2019
- November 25, 2019
- December 23, 2019
- January 27, 2020
- February 24, 2020
- March 30, 2020
- April 27, 2020
- May 25, 2020
- June 29, 2020
- July 27, 2020

Meetings that have taken place during the 2019-2020 school year have focused on the following:

- We have worked on goals and initiatives related Preparing students for the workforce or higher education, Inform students about career options, Connect students with local business and industry partners to explore career opportunities in Logan County, and to Honor students for making an informed, career choice that leads them to enrolling in higher education, enlisting in the military, or seeking employment in the workforce.
- Worked to develop the Logan County 3-E program – Enroll, Enlist, Employ to assist students in thinking about their future and making career plans well before the end of their senior year.
- We have worked to place large screen televisions in every school in Logan County that
 - Displays positive messages about workforce readiness and skills development.
 - Displays information about local businesses and career options available to students in Logan County.
 - Highlights students from all over Logan County who have committed to Enrollment, Enlistment, or Employment.

- Developing and fostering collaboration and communication between the business and educational communities
- Determining the needs of employers in Logan County
- Determining workplace skills that are lacking in today's high school graduates and discussing strategies to improve those skills as students move through grades K-12
- Facilitating discussions regarding strategies for informing students and families about workforce and career opportunities available for students in Logan County
- Planning and executing career day, career expo, mock interviews, internships, job shadowing, and other ways to connect employers and students
Helping students find their passion and make decisions about next steps after high school
- Determining the types of data needed to inform the council's efforts to prepare students for future employment in Logan County to meet anticipated economic and job market changes

Several events, activities, and initiatives have been discussed, planned, and executed as a result of the council's work during the 2019-2020 school year.

- Career Day allows students in Logan County middle schools to explore possible career options before entering into high school. Exploring career options before high school allows students to set an educational pathway that will provide them with a competitive advantage in the job market upon graduation. The Career Day took place in the gymnasium at Riverside Local Schools. During the day, students were exposed to dozens of potential career options.
- The Career Expo provides Logan County high school students with an opportunity to meet and interact with representatives from dozens of local area businesses. The expo took place in the gymnasium at Indian Lake High School. Students had the opportunity to investigate possible career and summer job opportunities. Students who pre-registered had the opportunity to formally interview with prospective employers.
- The Logan County Speaker Series Program consists of school districts inviting business owners and representatives to provide brief presentations geared to expose students to the numerous and diverse career options available to students in Logan County.
- Mock interviews will be geared toward juniors and seniors in high school. These interviews will provide students with experience in the interview process and employers with exposure to potential future employees. Employers are asked to take time to provide constructive feedback to students.
- Logan County Signing Day will highlight all seniors in Logan County who have made the career decision to Enroll in higher education, Enlist in the military, or become Employed in the workforce. Students will be recognized and honored for making the best choice possible to secure a successful future. This event will be highlighted in each district with local media involvement.

For the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, the council will continue to discuss and create strategies centered around the following:

- Prepare: How do we better prepare students to be successful in the workforce?
- Inform: How do we better inform students and their parents so that families can make informed decisions about graduation and career pathways for students?
- Connect: How do we better facilitate connections between local employers and students who plan to enter the workforce upon graduation?
- Honor: How do we do a better job of marketing workforce careers and honoring those students who choose to serve their community as part of the local workforce?