

# Mercer County Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council

*Re-Energizing Your Business Advisory Council:  
Growing New and  
Existing Partnerships*



## 2024 Business Advisory Councils

# Hello!

- Jared Ebbing, Director, Mercer County Community/Economic Development
- Sandi Holdheide, Workforce & Career Navigator, Mercer County ESC
  - Our Why: [Who we are and what our BAC strives to do](#)



Workforce & Career Navigator, x +


mercercountyesc.my.canva.site/workforce-career-navigator-bac#business-advisory-council

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## Mercer County ESC Business Advisory Council

### What is a BAC?

A [Business Advisory Council \(BAC\)](#) is a locally focused partnership that unites education and business leaders to engage in dialogue, build trust and identify strategies that transform the student learning experience. The Mercer County BAC is coordinated by an established partnership between the Mercer County ESC, the Mercer County Community & Economic Development Office and Wright State's Lake Campus. All Ohio school districts and Educational Service Centers are required to have a Business Advisory Council.



**Our Mercer County ESC BAC believes:**

- Mercer County and our surrounding region offers a great place to work, live, and raise a family.
- Bridges between business and education are the key to a sustainable future for our community.
- Every Mercer County student will graduate with an informed plan.

**Together we are:**

- Data Driven
- Action-Oriented
- Co-Designers of Student Success

**2024 Business Advisory Councils**

The Mercer County ESC BAC is honored to be recognized with a [2024 3-Star Business-Education Leader Award for Excellent Business Advisory Councils](#). This designation, achieved for 2 consecutive years, showcases the hard work, dedication and efforts our schools and

# *Relationships!*

## *Activity: 5-10 Minutes*

- Form a group with 2-3 people adjacent to you
- Introduce yourself
- Share an idea that has worked well for your BAC *or* that you would see as a success in linking businesses to schools.
- Plan to share out your idea!



# *Relationships!*

## *Kick-Off Event: August 2023*

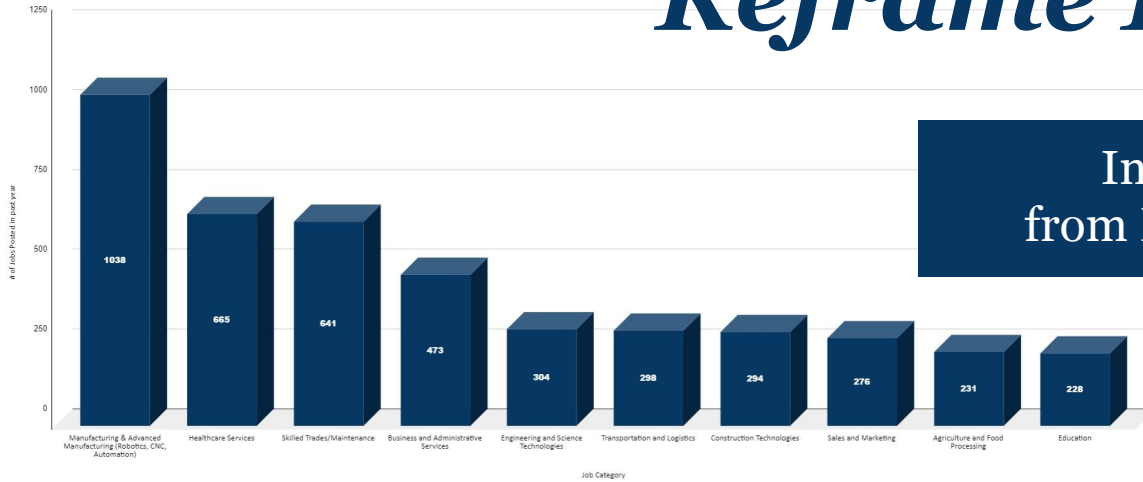
- Broad invitation asking for help in building the plan for our new BAC
- Facilitated by Michelle Washington, Office of Graduate Success and Cassie Palsgrove, Ohio Excels
- Why the Quality Practices?





# Reframe Information

# of Jobs Posted in past year by Job Category (9/2023-9/2024)



In-demand Jobs Data,  
from Hometown Opportunity

Graduation Data,  
from ESC School Reporting

<i><b>MERCER CO ESC SCHOOL TOTALS - 2024</b></i>	<i><b>Number of Seniors</b></i>	<i><b>Percent</b></i>
Business, Technical and Specialized Schools	42	6.12%
Two-year colleges	80	11.84%
Four-year colleges	335	49.37%
Military	18	2.62%
Work	204	30.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

# Reframe Information

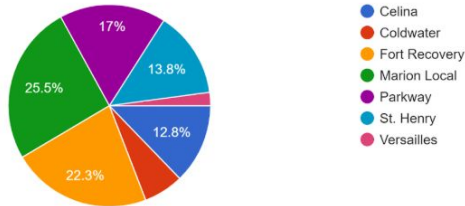
## Survey/Feedback Shared with ALL

### MERCER COUNTY ESC - BUSINESS ADVISORY COUN

#### April 30 In-Demand Learning Labs Final Feedback Report

Overall Survey Response Summary: [Feedback Form](#) (Google sheet, all data)

Your High School  
94 responses



#### Session 1 Summary:

This lab showed me an insider look and new information about the topic. The lab was engaging and interesting. The time (60 minutes) for this session was adequate.

#### Session 1 Summary:

This lab showed me an insider look and new information about the topic.		The lab was engaging and interesting.		The time (60 minutes) for this session was adequate.
Average Score 4.36		Average Score 4.40		Average Score 4.35
How likely would you pursue a career path related to this field BEFORE you attended today's session?		How likely will you pursue a career path related to this field AFTER attending today's session?		Change in Likelihood
Average Score 3.27		Average Score 3.67		Average Change 0.72
17	Highly Likely	24	Highly Likely	41% moved to Highly Likely before to HL after
17	Likely	25	Likely	47% moved to Likely Before to Likely after
33	Not Sure	31	Not Sure	-6% moved from Not Sure
16	Unlikely	7	Unlikely	-56% moved from Unlikely before to Unlikely after
6	Highly Unlikely	3	Highly Unlikely	-50% moved from Highly Unlikely before to HU after
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 students moved to "Highly Likely" or "Likely" AFTER their first session</li> <li>12 students moved away from "Unlikely" or "Highly Unlikely" AFTER their first session</li> <li>Only 2 changed in "Not Sure"</li> </ul>				

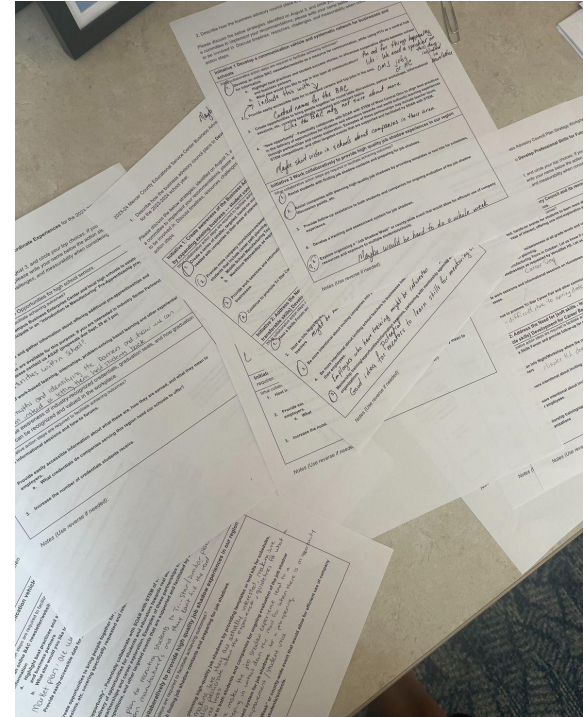
# Realize Your Plan: A Case Study

Describe how the business advisory council plans to **Develop Professional Skills for Future Careers** for the 2023-2024 school year.

## Initiative 2 Address the Need for [soft skills - leadership skills - executive skills - human skills - transferable skills] Development for Career Readiness

What collaborative action steps are required to facilitate achieving outcomes?

1. Host a Skills Forum and provide follow-up for curriculum input. The action plan will also include the creation of a core group to review industry-recognized credentials in leadership and life skills, to assess how they can be implemented in to school curriculum and subsequently recognized by hiring companies, and then to work with ODE to analyze the point value of each credential.
2. Be more intentional about inviting companies to participate in classes covering this skill development by developing a quick, easy to navigate directory of BAC business partners.



# Realize Your Plan: A Case Study



Essential Skills  
&  
Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal

Focus Competency: **DISCIPLINE**



540 East Market Street  
Celina, Ohio 45822  
[www.mercercountyesc.org](http://www.mercercountyesc.org)



## BAC ESSENTIAL SKILLS WORK SESSION

August 7, 2024 8:30-11:00 am

Location: Mercer County ESC

The BAC Essential Skills Committee has worked throughout the 2023-24 school year to consider how school districts and business partners can work together to intentionally teach and reinforce soft skills with students.

Our guiding principles:

- Let's be part of the solution and stop admiring this problem.
- It is our responsibility to model and reinforce these behaviors.

Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal - Mercer County Modules

8:30-8:50: Overview of the Essential Skills Modules and Padlet

8:50-9:15: Explore assigned modules, complete feedback forms

9:15-9:45: Share out module content and feedback

Consider supplemental resources

9:45-10:15: Inserting local business connections into modules

Connect the dots so employers recognize the value of the seal

Discuss how business partners can support this work

10:15- 11:00: Consider implementation in your district

How do we make this systematic and intentional?

How do we ensure fidelity/ quality implementation?

Next Steps?

### BAC Essential Skills Committee

Tony Stahl, Fort Recovery  
Brian Steiler, Tri Star  
Tim Goodwin, Marion Local  
Kris Baucher, DRI Rubber  
Andrea Kuehne, Cooper Farms  
Wendee Borkko, MCESC  
Wendi Moorman, MCESC  
Karen Rose, MCESC



To get involved:  
Sandi Holdheide, Workforce & Career Navigator  
[sandi\\_holdheide@mercercountyesc.org](mailto:sandi_holdheide@mercercountyesc.org)

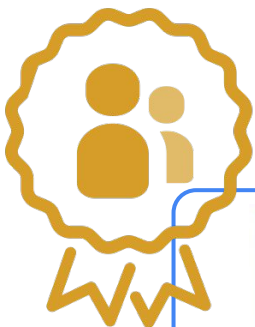
Jared Ebbing, Director, Mercer County  
Community/Economic Development  
[jared.ebbing@econdev.mercercountyohio.gov](mailto:jared.ebbing@econdev.mercercountyohio.gov)



# *Realize Your Plan: A Case Study*



# Review, and refine your tools



How it started...

A screenshot of a job listing page for Mercer County Educational Service Center. The page includes a header with the company name and address, a main image of a conference room, a 'QUICK INFO' sidebar with contact details, and a map. Two red arrows point to the company name and a text box at the bottom of the listing.

Back to Job List

**Mercer County Educational Service Center**  
540 E Market Street, Celina, OH, 45822

**QUICK INFO**

- 540 E Market Street, Celina, OH, 45822
- 419-586-6628
- Website
- 100 Local Employees

View Larger Map

Map showing location: 540 E Market St, Celina, OH 45822

Educational Service Center - Servicing Mercer County Schools.

This company provides job shadow opportunities.



... to how it's going



# Resist Complacency



Job Shadow Panel  
featuring students and  
businesses, followed by OMJ  
Curriculum Discussion



# Rebrand with Purpose

## MERCER COUNTY ESC - BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Quarterly Updates

#### Quarterly Meeting 2: Creating Valuable Job Shadow Experiences

Our next BAC Quarterly meeting is planned for **Friday, January 10, from 9:00-11:00 am** at the Mercer County ESC. Our agenda will include:

- **Job Shadow Best Practices**, featuring:
  - **Business Panel Discussion**, featuring local company representatives sharing best practices such as optimal schedules for a great session; forms/liability waivers, and how these are handled when minors are on-site; and more
  - **Student Panel Discussion**, where you can hear first-hand about the value of this experience
  - An info session covering the Job Shadow Tools available through our website (and linked below)
  - Highlights of Hometown Opportunity's Job Shadow designation, and how to use this tool to find quality job shadows
- Get updates on the Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal curriculum, including how these skills are now being taught in the classroom, plus **how companies are getting involved through video projects** →

And, a review of our busy fall, and a look ahead to events that you can be involved in this Spring!

*Donuts and coffee will be provided. We appreciate you taking the time to RSVP.*

**Click here to RSVP (by January 3) for this meeting!** →

#### The Latest News from Your BAC...

2 Shadow tools and more from our BAC

Participate in our April 2025 In-Demand Career Learning Labs! See a recap and let us know in January, if you are in! →

Celebrate another successful October: See our video recap of amazing **Manufacturing Month Tours!** →

*Share! All are welcome (whether or not you were able to attend previously!) involved.*

Jared Ebbing, Director, Mercer County Community/Economic Development:  
 jehd@mercercountyesc.org | jared.ebbing@econdev.mercercountyohio.gov

## Social Media

**Sandi Holdheide, CSCDA** · You  
 Workforce & Career Navigator at Mercer County Educational Service...

Do you want to connect with schools and businesses to help build career development in Mercer County, but aren't sure where to start? Attend our next Mercer County ESC BAC meeting to learn how! Our updated website (<https://lnk.in/gE6Bpij>) includes our upcoming meeting dates, agendas, and minutes, as well as more information about what a BAC is and how you can get involved. Please message me for a link to RSVP!

Followers 331

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### Quarterly Updates

#### 2024-25 Meetings

Agendas	Slides/Minutes
September 16, 2024 (PDF)	September 16, 2024 (PDF)
January 10, 2025 (PDF)	January 10, 2025 (PDF)
April 30, 2025	April 30, 2025
July 2025	July 2025

*Agendas will be posted approximately 1 week prior to each quarterly meeting, and minutes will be posted approximately 2 weeks after each meeting.*

#### Newsletters

December 2024

August 2024

June 2024

## New Website

## MERCER COUNTY ESC - BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Newsletter



# *In Review...*

*Resist the urge to simply repeat!*

Relationships + Reframing/Reviewing + Rebranding +  
Relying on/Realizing Your BAC Plan =  
***Re-Energized!***

*Thank you!*

*Please take these last few minutes to reconnect to your group from the beginning activity, building relationships for the future!*