



Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council Joint Statement 2022-23

Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council:

This year, Polaris Career Center, Berea City Schools, Fairview Park City Schools, Olmsted Falls City Schools, North Olmsted City Schools and Strongsville City Schools continued to meet as the Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council (SRBAC). Polaris Career Center and its partner school districts have continued to work collaboratively towards the shared goal of developing students' preparedness for college, career, or military upon graduation from high school. The SRBAC (see Exhibit A) includes more than 80 businesses, community and school representatives.

Primary Contact:

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Meeting schedule:

The SRBAC committed to meeting four times this school year.
Meeting dates for the 2022-23 school year were (are) as follows:

October 13, 2022 – Polaris Career Center
December 15, 2022 – Berea-Midpark High School
February 16, 2023 – North Olmsted High School
April 20, 2023 – Aerozone Alliance

Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council – (SRBAC)

2023 Accomplished Goals:

This year, the Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council (SRBAC) has continued to address local workforce/business needs and student skills requirements from a regional perspective. Meeting agendas and SRBAC's goals have coincided with recommendations from the Ohio Department of Education, including:

1. Providing students with authentic work-based learning opportunities and mock interviews.
2. Delineating employment skills and developing program pathways curriculum to instill the identified employment skills.
3. Changes in the economy and job market and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be in demand.
4. Developing a working relationship among business, labor, and education personnel.
5. Connecting graduating seniors to local employers and post-secondary customized training opportunities.
6. Actively addressing workforce gaps by preparing students for future careers through mentorship, job shadowing, internships, and skills training opportunities

Summary of SRBAC Activities:

- Implementation of the new *Senior Connections* initiative-connecting graduating seniors, identified as lacking a solid plan after graduation, to employment and job training opportunities. A career fair and facility tour will be held on May 3rd at Polaris Career Center
- Introduced the BILT Model and engaged in a “**bring a business**” day, inviting new local businesses to join SRBAC. Every school district and community representative was asked to invite a local business partner. We highlighted new businesses and continued our conversation about how education and training programs can help address our local workforce challenges. Craig McAtee was our keynote presenter. Craig is the CEO of The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC). NCATC bridges higher education and industry-led strategic partner resources that advocates, advises, and promotes the use of advanced technology applications to enhance economic and workforce development programs and services. Craig presented the Business & Industry Leadership Team (BILT) model, a proven method for strategic employer engagement, creating partnerships that yield workforce intelligence that facilitates continuous program improvement and innovation.
<https://www.pathwaystoinnovation.org/bilt-academy/>
- Shared the Ohio Department of Education's *Ohio Employer Guide to Work-based Learning* with all SRBAC members.
- Presentation by Swaglok: *Local Workforce Challenges from a Manufacturing Company's Perspective*.

- Presentation by Polaris Career Center: *Framework for Creating a Successful Student Internship Experience*, including Mercedes Benz of North Olmsted and Polaris senior internship students from North Olmsted High School.
- North Olmsted High School Interactive Program Showcase:
 - Home Repair and Maintenance/Robotics
 - Business/Entrepreneurship/Marketing
 - PLTW Biomedical Science
 - Full STEAM Ahead!
- Our culminating meeting in April will take place at the Aerozone Alliance. The Aerozone Alliance was organized to create the conditions for an airport city or “aerotropolis” to take shape, driving regional economic growth from the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport and the NASA Glenn Research Center. The Aerozone Alliance represents an unprecedented partnership between private sector businesses, local and federal governments, municipalities, entrepreneurs and innovators, nonprofits, and community developers working collaboratively to create a world-class innovation district to live, work, and grow. Our featured presenter will be NASA’s Bryan K. Smith. Bryan is the Director of Facilities, Test and Manufacturing at NASA’s Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. Bryan will share NASA’s current workforce challenges and engage a high school student panel of future engineers.

New Members/Partnerships:

For the 2021-22 school year, the Southwest Regional Business Advisory Council (SRBAC) had 67 members. For the 2022-23 school year, SRBAC has 87 members, adding 20 new members/partnerships. We have expanded our non-profit network, including Team NEO, Power of More, and the National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC).

Focus on Next School Year:

The SRBAC will continue to expand the membership council and continue efforts to connect local schools and businesses. We will continue to rotate meeting locations and make efforts to increase meeting attendance among members. The workforce development theme will continue to be an area of focus. Additional activities include mini-career fair opportunities for students, and business and career expos for the local community.

Appendix A

First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Business
Keith	Ahearn	Superintendent	Fairview Park City Schools
Robbie	Anderson	Agent/Owner	State Farm Insurance
Jill	Archambeau	Account and Compliance Management Specialist	APP
Chuck	Bichara	Director of Economic Development	City of Middleburg Heights

David	Binkley	Director of Instructional Technology	Strongsville City Schools
Ron	Block	Branch Manager	Cuyahoga County Public Library-Middleburg Heights
Mark	Boepple	President at Next New Customer	Power of More, Fairview Chamber
Jamie	Bollinger	College & Career Coordinator	Polaris Career Center
Christen	Brabenec	Transition Coordinator	Olmsted Falls City Schools
David	Brand	Superintendent	North Olmsted City Schools
Tara	Brunst	Unit Serving Executive	Boy Scouts of America
Aimee	Caldrone	College and Career Counselor	Olmsted Falls High School
Ted	Caleris	Superintendent	Brooklyn City Schools
Cristina	Capretta	Director of Marketing & Community Relations	Berea City Schools
Matt	Castelli	Mayor	City of Middleburg Heights
Elizabeth	Cleary	Business Teacher	Olmsted Falls High School
Jessica	Cliff	Program Director/Instructor	Kung Fu Academy
Mark	Comstock	Judge	Berea Municipal Court
Supriya	Culliton	Coordinator of Student Support Programs	Brooklyn City Schools
Lisa	Deliz	Assistant Superintendent	Brooklyn City Schools
Al	DiFranco	President	Junior Achievement of Greater Cleveland
Tanya	DiSalvo	President	Criterion Tool & Die
Nick	Discenza	Director of Academic Affairs	Berea City Schools
Chris	Doherty	Chief Information Officer	Clark-Reliance
Mike	Draves	Assistant Superintendent	Berea City Schools
Bill	Evans	High School Principal	Polaris Career Center
Tanya	Foose	Center Director	Grade Power Learning
Dan	Foust	Communications Coordinator	Strongsville City Schools
Jessica	Harmon	Director of Marketing	SNAT Management/North Coast Dominos
Nate	Haskell	Attorney	Volpini Law
Jim	Heiser	Vice President of Operations/Owner	Bullseye
Alison	Hines	Recruiting Manager & HR Business Partner	Vitamix Corporation
Ebony	Hogan	Career Services Supervisor	Cuyahoga County Public Library
Michelle	Kalish	Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction	Brook Park City Schools
Tim	Koenig	Service Manager	Brewer Garrett
Jeanene	Kress	Olmsted Township Trustee	Olmsted Township
Paul	Kress	Managing Principal	APS Health
Rob	Kress	Technical Product manager	Noshok
Maureen	Lehman	Employment Coordinator	Polaris Career Center
Jim	Lloyd	Superintendent	Olmsted Falls City Schools
Lori	Long	Professor	Baldwin Wallace University
Naima	Lusane	Tech Prep	Cuyahoga Community College

Kelly	MacCarthy	Realtor	Century 21
Matt	Madzy	Director of Economic Development	City of Berea
Hrishue	Mahalaha	Executive Director	Aerozone Alliance
John	Mandula	Project Manager	O.R. Colan Associates, LLC
Paul	Marnecheck	Commissioner, Economic Development	City of Brook Park
Al	Matyas	Vice President Ambulatory Operations & Business Development	Southwest General Health Center
Craig	McAtee	CEO/Executive Director at NCATC	The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers
Richard	Micko	Board Member	Strongsville Board of Education
Doug	Miller	Director of Community Outreach	Polaris Career Center
Julie	Morreal	Division of Community Learning	Baldwin Wallace University
Shayna	Muckerheide	Branch Manager	Cuyahoga County Public Library-Brook Park
Tom	Norton	Business Outreach Coordinator	City of Berea
Bill	Novak	Adult Education Counselor/Fairview Park Resident	Polaris Career Center
Brent	Painter	Director of Economic Development	City of Strongsville
Cathi	Patton	Fairview Hospital/Parent	Fairview Hospital
Kim	Petrina	Director of Communications	Olmsted Falls City Schools
Neal	Postel	Berea Board of Education Member	Berea Board of Education
Anne	Pyros	Associate Superintendent	North Olmsted City Schools
Dan	Rajkovich	Communications & Marketing Coordinator	Fairview Park City Schools
Celena	Roebuck	College of Business Administration	Cleveland State University
Jeremy	Rowan	Director of Economic Development	City of Brooklyn
Barry	Rowley	Vice President - Operations	Noshok
Dave	Rubis	Advisory	Fairport Asset Management
Angelo	Russo	City Councilman	Russo and Associates
Amy	Rutledge	Communications Coordinator	North Olmsted City Schools
Cameron	Ryba	Superintendent	Strongsville City Schools
Mary Jo	Schmidt	Director of Business Engagement	Aerozone Alliance
Charlie	Sexstella	Business Teacher	North Olmsted High School
Mike	Sheppard	Assistant Superintendent	Polaris Career Center
Cody	Shimell	Service Manager	Mercedes Benz of North Olmsted
Robbie	Showalter	Treasurer	Fairview Park City Schools
Cathy	Shultis	Branch Manager	Cuyahoga County Public Library-Berea
Mike	Slivochka	Director of Adult Education	Polaris Career Center
Gavin	Smith	Project Executive	AM Higley Company
Zach	Strippy	Business Development Specialist	Brewer Garrett
Carrie	Sullivan	Family and Community Engagement Coordinator	Fairview Park City Schools
Greg	Surtman	Workforce Leader & Sales Consultant	ToolingU-SME

Paula	Swiner	Director of Member Care and Resources	Boy Scouts of America Lake Erie Council
Bob	Timmons	Superintendent	Polaris Career Center
Max	Upton	Department of Economic and Community Development	City of North Olmsted
Jeff	Valus	Principal	CBLH Design
Gabriel	Venditti	BSL Supervisor Adult	Cuyahoga County Public Library - Berea Branch
Tracy	Wheeler	Superintendent	Berea City Schools
Tim	Wydra	Senior HR Manager	Vitamix Corporation
Diane	Xander	Executive Director of Innovation and Career Development	Polaris Career Center