

## MINUTES OF THE ASHTABULA COUNTY BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

**Friday, October 15, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**  
**Ashtabula County Educational Service Center Via ZOOM**

### **Members Present:**

Mr. Mike Candela, Superintendent, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center  
Ms. Beth Dougherty, Human Resource Generalist, INEOS Pigments USA  
Ms. Kelli Jones, Executive Director, Leadership Ashtabula County  
Mr. Greg Myers, Executive Director, Growth Partnership of Ashtabula County  
Dr. William Nye, Superintendent, Grand Valley Local School District  
Ms. Christina Ray, Human Resources Director, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center  
Mr. Craig Sernik, Executive Director, Area 19 NOC COG  
Mr. George Smith, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center Board Member  
Dr. Sue Stocker, Dean and Chief Administrative Officer, Kent State University at Ashtabula  
Mr. Scott Wludyga, Superintendent, Ashtabula County Technical and Career Campus  
Ms. Wendy Zele, Manager of External Affairs, FirstEnergy Corporation

### **Members Absent:**

Mr. Patrick Arcaro, Executive Director, Ashtabula County Department of Job and Family Services  
Ms. Hattie Grubke-Barnard, Workforce Development Administrator, Ohio Means Jobs Ashtabula  
Mr. Jonathan Forbes, Director, Human Resources at Ashtabula County Medical Center  
Mr. Richard Jackson, Executive Vice President, Operations ASHTA Chemicals, Inc.  
Mr. John Ringer, President, Ringer Screen Print, Inc.  
Mr. Mike Sass, Director of Human Resources, Community Care Ambulance  
Ms. Lisa Shank, Human Resources Manager, Lake City Plating  
Mr. William Stoots, Operations Manager, Worthington Industries

### **Guests:**

Trumbull County ESC:  
Mr. Robert Marino: Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. James Rook, Curriculum and Instruction Supervisor  
Ms. Denise Hunt, Ashtabula County ESC

### **Items Discussed:**

1. Call to order by Mr. Craig Sernik
2. Introductions: Each participating member introduced themselves

3. Review and Approve Minutes from May 21, 2021 Meeting

- Motion by Mr. Mike Candela, second by Ms. Wendy Zele All in favor.

4. New member: Krista Shean, Director of Data, Accountability, and Professional Development, Ashtabula Area City Schools

5. Review and approve the Plan for this year. Motion to approve the plan, Mr. Mike Candela, Dean Stocker seconded and all in favor.

6. Job Readiness Seal Presentation by Trumbull County Educational Service Center

Mr. Mike Candela introduced the guests. Mr. Candela noted we have a great working relationship with Trumbull County ESC He noted that he appreciated the fact that the Trumbull County ESC and Mr. Michael Hanshaw for taking the time to present to us. Mr. Marino noted that they contracted with Mr. Rook to help secure some of the business related initiatives such as the Job Readiness Seal. Mr. Marino indicated that Trumbull serves 17 districts in their county.

Mr. James Rook provided a presentation with regard to the Readiness Seal. The presentation was made available on our shared drive. Mr. Rook provided information with regard to the monthly newsletter they develop and provide to their partners. Mr. Candela asked Mr. Rook if he would provide his presentation to our county Superintendents in the near future.

7. Follow up on Mentorship Program from last school year: Mr. Greg Myers & Mrs. Denise Hunt

Ms. Denise Hunt provided a brief presentation and overview of the mentorship from last year. Mr. Greg Myers also provided some additional information for future plans. One idea is to try to implement internships and offer school credit for that activity.

Other discussion: Mr. Myers indicated they would like to head up development of a flyer and or printed documentation similar to what Trumbull County ESC put together with regard to employment opportunities. Mr. Myers indicated that Growth Partnership would be able to pay for this type of communication to be developed and or mailed out to schools.

8. Discussion and upcoming Meeting Topics:

- Implementing Job Readiness Seal

Mr. Sernik mentioned that Workforce could assist in funding for credentials and or funnel individuals into the credentials. We will continue to discuss this topic

- OhioMeansJobs presentation will be set up for a future meeting
- Career Connections Summit with School Counselors and other related agencies

Mr. Sernik would like to set up an annual summit where we can focus on OMJ and other career connections resources. Ideally possibly set up something for the spring. We will look at a potential shared PD date on the school calendars.

- Growth Partnership, Mr. Myers & Leadership, Ms. Jones: Survey document to identify industry needs in our county. Will be a topic discussion for next meeting
- Mr. Sernik mentioned that there is an RFP that will be available this month for youth services in our county.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr.Scott Wludyga and seconded by Mr. Greg Myers. All in favor.

Attachments Available in Google folder:

- Job Readiness Seal Presentation by Trumbull County
- Ashtabula County Mentorship program overview from last school year

Next Meeting Date:

- Friday January 21, 2022