

Wood County Business Advisory Council Report

2-27-2019

This report outlines the council's plans for the year, summarizes objectives developed, actions taken, and actions pending in accordance to the charge of the B.A.C.

The first quarterly meeting was held on September 21, 2018. Meeting dates were established, as well as objectives were developed for the year. The council identified primary employment skills and how individual school districts are teaching/reinforcing the skills in the classrooms and through programs in each district. In addition to the superintendents and members of the business communities, Senator Randy Gardner and House Representative Theresa Gavarone were present at the first meeting. The Wood County B.A.C. has 18 members serving on the council and is open for guests to attend any of the quarterly meetings.

The second quarterly meeting was held on December 7, 2018. Focused on how to assess changes in the economy and job market and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available. There was also discussion on how to develop working relationships among businesses, industry, the trades and educational personnel. An additional meeting was developed to look into addressing the identified tasks.

On January 14, 2019, the Executive Director of the Wood County Economic Development Foundation, the Executive Director of the Bowling Green Economic Development Foundation, the Workforce Administrator for Wood County Ohio Means Jobs and the Regional Coordinator for Ohio College Tech Prep met. From this meeting, both executive directors communicated the willingness to contact companies to attend the next quarterly Wood County B.A.C. meeting, in order to connect businesses with the school district superintendents. Members of the Wood County B.A.C. were also invited to participate in the Project Readiness Kick-Off Event on February 22, 2019, at Penta Career Center, sponsored by Wood County Ohio Means Jobs.

The next quarterly meeting will be held on March 8, 2019. The Executive Directors from Bowling Green and Wood County Economic Development Foundations have communicated there will be various businesses and companies attending this meeting. There will be an open dialog between the invited businesses and companies, along with the B.A.C. business community members with the city, local and career center superintendents. The topics that will be addressed are: recognizing and understanding jobs available in the area, providing information on potential wages, benefits and career growth from employment in the region and developing strategies and events to promote awareness, interest and opportunities that will benefit students, adults and the employers.

The final quarterly meeting for the year is schedule on June 21, 2019. This meeting will focus on how the results of the previous quarterly meetings had an effect on districts meeting the employment skills and understanding the economic and job market changes. The Wood County B.A.C. will assess the productivity of the relationships established with regional employers, and start preparing objectives for next year based on the outcome from meeting the current year's objectives.

Wood County Business Advisory Council Membership includes:

- Bowling Green City Schools
- Eastwood Local Schools
- Elmwood Local Schools
- Lake Local Schools
- North Baltimore Local Schools
- Northwood Local Schools
- Otsego Local Schools
- Penta Career Center
- Wood County Educational Service Center