

Pickaway County Schools Business Advisory Council Plan 2019-2020

Pickaway WORKS serves as the Pickaway County Schools' Business Advisory Council

Mission: Collaborate with education, business and community to build partnerships that create relevant career pathways for students and link them with resources and opportunities to succeed.

Membership

Supported Districts:

Circleville City Schools
Logan Elm School District
Teays Valley School District
Westfall School District

Business Advisory Council Members:

Natalie Blue, Ashville Propane, Business Owner
Jeremy Davitz, Production Plus, Business Owner
Jean Droste, Former Mayor of Circleville, Community Member
Wendy Elliott, Ohio Health Berger, Sr. VP and COO
Michael Linton, Accurate Heating & Cooling, Business Owner
Josh Ray, PPG, Engineering & Maintenance Manager
Stacey Sark, Mid-Ohio Water Management LLC, Business Owner
Ryan Scribner, Pickaway Progress Partnership (P3), Economic Development Director
Roxan Sigmon, Ohio Means Jobs Pickaway, Manager
Kevin Steward, Darby Creek Excavating/Westfall Aggregates, Business Owner
Jay Wippel, Pickaway County Commissioner

Educator Business Advisory Council Members:

Ty Ankrom, Pickaway Co Educational Service Center, Superintendent
Christine Boucher, Eastland-Fairfield CTS, Business Development
Ronna Brisker, Ashville Elementary, School Counselor
Eric Fehr, Ohio Christian University, Student Development
Lisa Heins, Circleville City Schools, Curriculum Director
Hank Kelly, Retired Provost, Ohio Christian University, Community Member
Beth Keplar, Teays Valley Schools, Director of Education and Learning
Jeffrey Robb, College Student, Hiram College
Sandy Sethna, Teays Valley Library Aide, Community Member
Meghan Thoreau, OSU Extension, STEM Educator/Community Development
Jason Vesey, Pickaway Ross CTC, Secondary Principal

Business Advisory Council (Pickaway WORKS) Employees:

Christy Mills, Executive Director
Christina Sykes, Career Advisor
Emily Smith, Career Advisor
Kelsie Peters, Program Assistant

Schedule of Meetings:

September 27, 2019

December 20, 2019

March 20, 2019

June 25, 2019

Responsibilities: Pickaway WORKS' primary focus is to collaboratively create...

- **Awareness** and increased knowledge of local employment and career opportunities
- **Alignment** by building strong relationships between local educators and employers
- **Relevance** and connections between classroom work and the real world of work

In collaboration with local economic development professionals, our council has spent the last two years gathering input from our business community through a series of workforce connection breakfasts, community surveys, focus groups and one-on-one meetings with local business and community leaders. We have formed a local Pickaway HR Professionals group that informs curriculum decisions in our schools. As a result, the following Pickaway WORKS initiatives have been implemented to improve our students' college and career readiness and prepare them for success in the future economy:

- **Educator Business Tours**- small groups of educators visit businesses to learn about career pathways and local opportunities, as well as to connect real world of work scenarios to learning in the classroom.
- **Reverse Business Tours** – business and community leaders are invited “back to school” for tours and updates on programming and progress.
- **Job Shadows/Internships**- onsite and virtual opportunities to help students explore career interests and gain valuable real world work experience, various levels of interaction.
- **Guest Speaker Events** - career day and other networking and career awareness events for business and community members to share career path stories and connect students, educators and employers.
- **High School Boot Camps**- mock interview sessions and small group workshops on relevant topics to prepare students for success in life after high school.
- **Thinking Partnerships**- business and community members partner with a classroom teacher to provide real world problem scenarios and allow students to problem solve and develop solutions.
- **Business Showcase**- student created business spotlight videos to be featured in schools and online, as well as for the benefit of the business.
- **Pickaway County College & Career Night** - annual county-wide event with over 100 educational institutions and employers sharing information about education options, future career paths and local job opportunities.

- **ACT Prep Workshops** - spring and fall workshop sessions to help students prepare for college entrance exams.
- **FAFSA Day** - annual financial aid workshop with personal assistance from Ohio Christian University professionals in filing the FAFSA, the necessary first step in the financial aid process.
- **Pickaway HELPS/Ula Jean Metzler Scholarship**- first generation college student scholarship awarded to one senior from each county school district attending an accredited post-secondary institution, financial need criteria.
- **Real Money Real World**- financial literacy curriculum developed by Ohio State University Extension and presented to Pickaway County 8th graders, with a culminating simulation activity manned by community volunteers.
- **Kids on Campus**- summer enrichment camp for grades 1-4 and focusing on math, science, music, art and technology, providing hands-on activities in a fun learning environment and early exposure to a college campus.

Pickaway WORKS is a 501c3 non-profit with formal by-laws in place. Program activities are implemented by the executive director and program advisors, at the direction of the director. A five member Operations Committee, a formal subcommittee of Pickaway WORKS Advisory Board, provides general oversight on budget and personnel matters, makes recommendations to the full Advisory Board, and meets quarterly in advance of the Advisory Board meetings. An in-depth review of the program is conducted at our annual strategic planning retreat, to review feedback, evaluate program performance and provide direction moving forward.

Pickaway WORKS has been promoting college and career readiness for Pickaway County students for over thirteen years now, financially supported by all county school districts as well as the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners. This strong support continues with our renewed focus on engaging business partners. Through our ongoing program initiatives, we are building partnerships among our key stakeholders that are creating relevant career pathways for our students, helping meet the workforce demands of our employers and strengthening the economic stability of our community.