



educational service center
of Central Ohio

A photograph of a Black woman with short, curly hair, wearing a grey blazer over a maroon turtleneck. She is sitting at a desk, smiling and looking towards the right. In front of her is a laptop, a smartphone, and a tissue box. The background is a plain wall with a door handle.

Business Advisory Council

2020-2021

Looking For Equity

This year has posed many challenges for our communities with no simple answers. While the COVID-19 pandemic impacted most all phases of our individual lives, it also has brought to the forefront systemic community issues that were already present, magnifying and shining a spotlight on them. Impacts to systems of racial and social justice, health care, the economy and its related workforce, and many more are bringing to the surface inequities in our local, national, and global communities that are slowing growth at all levels.

To address these issues, communities including those in Central Ohio are working hard to find solutions that will enable us to build stronger and more effective and equitable systems moving forward beyond the pandemic. This past April, Governor Mike DeWine and his administration established the Minority Health Strike Force. The Strike Force was initially established to focus on COVID-19 and how it has disproportionately impacted Ohio communities and people of color. However, it was quickly understood that it must broaden the scope of study to include recommended changes for underlying and foundational racial disparities.

The Strike Force released its More Than a Mask Blueprint intending to provide a path forward to improve the health and well-being of all Ohioans, recommending changes to the health, social, and physical environment that must be considered to achieve progress. The Blueprint makes recommendations that focus on the following:

- Dismantle racism to advance health equity;
- Reduce discrimination and increase diversity in the health workforce;
- Increase access to health care;
- Increase access to COVID-19 testing, treatment, personal protective equipment (PPE), and a vaccine (when available);
- Improve access to high-quality education;
- Reduce poverty and increase investment and employment;
- Improve working conditions;
- Decrease arrest and incarceration rates;
- Increase safe and affordable housing;
- Increase access to transportation; and
- Decrease the digital divide.



These recommendations are intended to be actionable to both eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 and other health outcomes while improving the overall well-being for communities of color in Ohio. It works to establish a vision of Ohio as a model of justice, equity, opportunity, and resilience to withstand future challenges. Each of these has a direct impact on our local economy as well as our education systems and having this vision may assist the Business Advisory Council in its work to provide equitable solutions and opportunities for businesses, schools, and students.

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/MHSF/Executive-Response.pdf>

The report provides the insight and recommendations needed to inform policy decisions and activate change.

Using An Equity Lens

The Business Advisory Council has worked and aligned itself closely with the Central Ohio Compact and its goals for several years. The Compact reports that it has seen progress in the areas of increasing student access and attainment, collaborative cross-sector engagement, and a deepened focus on more equitable outcomes for working adults, low-income and first-generation college students, and students of color. This school year, the Central Ohio Compact will shift its focus to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the region holding three virtual sessions to focus on each instead of its annual fall Summit.

Session One – The Strategy: Exploring the Deliberate Construction of Race in the U.S.
Thursday, October 15, 2-3:30 p.m.

Session Two – The Divide: Exploring Regional Racialized Disparities
Thursday, October 29, 2-3:30 p.m.

Session Three – The Conversation: Exploring Regional Equity Strategies and Practices
Thursday, November 5, from 10 a.m. to noon



55 education
partners



25 industry
partners

**Central Ohio
attainment goal**

65%

“...the Compact has determined that 65 percent of Central Ohio’s population will need a postsecondary credential by 2025.”



**Current
progress**

45%

*A complete list of education and industry partners can be found on the Central Ohio Compact website at www.centralohiocompact.org/get-involved.

To meet the overarching attainment goal, the Compact is guided by four strategic priorities to focus upon, each of which to be viewed through a diversity, equity and inclusion lens.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Student Aspiration
And Access

Alignment And Academic
Preparation

Alternative Pathways
For Adult Learners

Affordability

These priorities focus the Compact’s work on several goals, including:

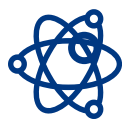
- Dramatically increasing the number of students earning a postsecondary credential;
- Ensuring that all college-bound high school graduates are college ready;
- Increasing the number of high school graduates with credit toward a degree or certificate;
- Increasing the number of community college graduates earning bachelor’s degrees through pathways to completion;
- Providing consistent, accurate and timely communication with students and families to eliminate uncertainty and ensure success at the college level;
- Employing specific strategies for working adults, low-income and first-generation college students, and students of color;
- Advancing the region’s need for a highly skilled workforce, including an emphasis on STEM fields, by aligning with regional workforce and economic development efforts;
- Managing the costs of education for students, families and taxpayers.

Collaborating with Employers

It is clear that the work and goals of the Central Ohio Compact are directly aligned with the purpose and responsibilities of the state-required business advisory councils, and its Workforce Advisory Council puts a clear focus on those goals. The Compact’s Workforce Advisory Council brings together Central Ohio employer partners to anticipate infrastructure, program, and policy needs aligned with the group’s goal to meet local employer demand with a highly skilled workforce. It represents a wide spectrum of industry sectors across the region, including financial services, insurance, health care, law, customer care, logistics and distribution, information technology, hospitality, and education – and its focus is on developing a regional strategy to open opportunities for all to participate in the emerging economy.

Based on this understanding, the ESC coordinates the work of its own business advisory council in concert with school districts to create efficiencies in meeting requirements of state law, while also continuing this great work and aligning to the goals and strategies of the Compact and its council.

5 Key Sectors | Columbus Economy



Science & Tech



Logistics



Manufacturing



Business Services



International Business

Central Ohio Workforce Partners



Benefits of the ESC's Business Advisory Council

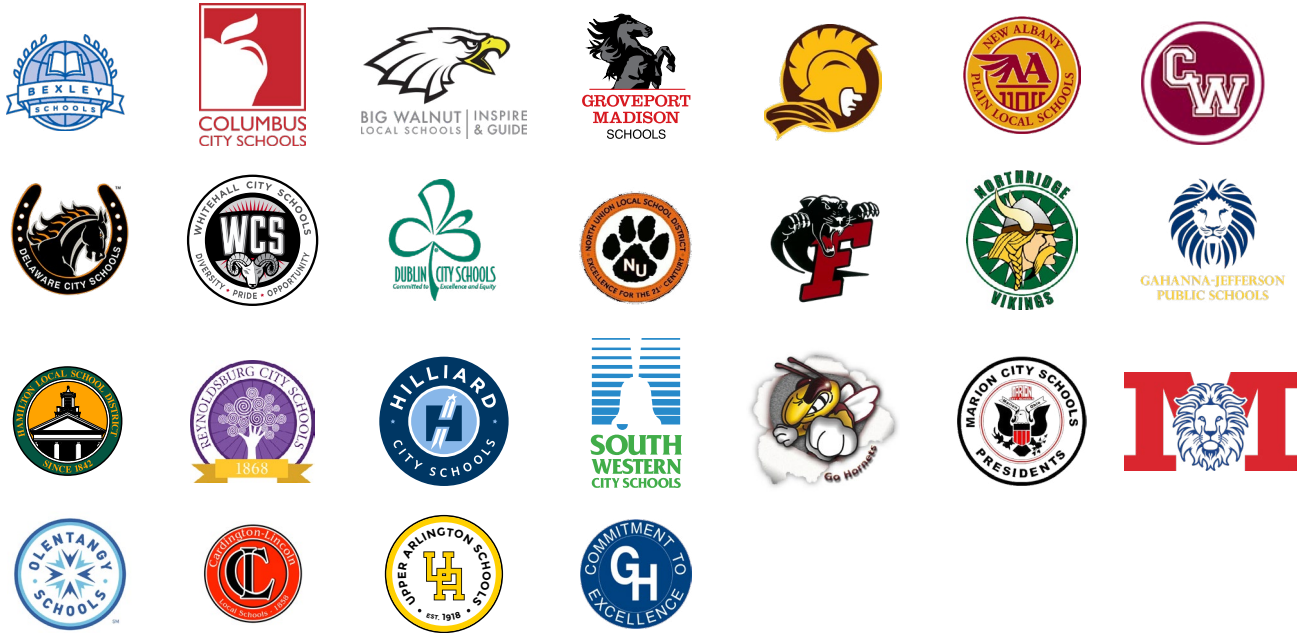
Business advisory councils have been required by law since 1995 and can provide benefits for every Ohio school district. With the addition of business advisory standards in HB49, a renewed emphasis and focus at the state level has been placed on the importance of establishing active business advisory councils and emphasizing that their work is critical in today's economy.

The Council will advise local school districts on changes in the economy and job market by:

- Identifying new and emerging careers
- Offering districts recommendations on needed knowledge, skills and competencies
- Advocating for effective curriculum
- Offering work-based learning opportunities
- Making recommendations on facilities and equipment needed to teach work-based skills
- Supporting local school districts by offering suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and educators



Business Advisory Council Participants



What's Next?

The 2020-21 Business Advisory Council will focus mainly on the three areas below.

- The delineation of employment skills and the development of curriculum to instill these skills;
- Changes in the economy and job market and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available;
- Suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and education personnel.

In order to accomplish these goals, the ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council (BAC) meets on a quarterly basis. This school year's meetings are scheduled for October, December, February and April. During those meetings, the BAC will serve in an advisory capacity to support the continued development of a Central Ohio regional platform for work-based learning (WBL) experiences. These experiences will cover the range of the work-based learning continuum from career awareness to postsecondary career training and education. A parent awareness and WBL work group will also continue to function to carry out action steps and create tools/resources to accomplish the goals of the BAC. In addition, to inform the BAC on changes in the economy, Regionomics will share information on the impact of COVID-19 on our regional job market and economy. A review of progress toward the BAC's goals will be shared as well as time provided for BAC partners to collaborate in order to develop effective solutions to the challenges that the pandemic has brought to the most in-demand occupations.

The ESC's Success Network will also support the work of the BAC by providing technical assistance to school districts for industry credentialing, the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness seal, virtual WBL opportunities, pathway development, instructional practices, and work-based learning opportunities. This support will happen through regional meetings, training sessions and on-site district support, as well as e-newsletters, a website and social media.

Resources

- ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council www.escco.org/programs-services/businessadvisory-council/
- Central Ohio Compact www.centralohiocompact.org
- Columbus State Community College: Business www.cscs.edu/for-business
- ESC of Central Ohio: Success Network www.escco.org/programs-services/college-and-careerreadiness/success-network
- Lumina Foundation: A Stronger Nation www.strongernation.luminafoundation.org/report/2018/#nation
- MORPC: insight2050 Report www.getinsight2050.org/the-report/
- Ohio Department of Education: Business Advisory Councils in Ohio Schools www.education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Operating-Standards/Business-Advisory-Council-Operating-Standards.pdf
- Ohio Department of Education: Ohio Business Advisory Councils – Next Steps www.education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Operating-Standards/BAC-Guidance-to-Districts.pdf.aspx
- Ohio Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation: Building Ohio's Future Workforce www.workforce.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Future%20of%20Workforce%20Report.pdf
- Ohio Laws & Rules: Ohio Revised Code 3313.82: Business Advisory Councils www.codes.ohio.gov/orc/3313.82
- One Columbus <https://columbusregion.com/onecolumbus/>
- Success Bound <https://successbound.ohio.gov/>





educational service center
of Central Ohio

Business Advisory Council

