

Licking County Business and Community Advisory Council (BCAC) Joint Statement
with the
Licking County Educational Service Center (LCESC) Governing Board
February 28, 2021

As stated in the guidance documents produced by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) in response to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 3313.174 in 1995 (renumbered to 3313.82 in 2009) where such guidance reads:

Business advisory council responsibilities under 3313.82 include advising and providing recommendations on:

- *the delineation of employment skills and the development of curriculum to instill these skills;*
- *changes in the economy and in the 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 educational personnel.*

And as further stated in the guidance document from ODE in response to the recent updates to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) in the recently enacted House Bill 49 and now in ORC Section 3313.821, additional requirements for business advisory councils include the following:

- *Each business advisory council must establish a plan on how the business advisory council will advise the board on the requirements listed in ORC Section 3313.82.*
- *Each business advisory council must file the plan with the Department of Education. Coordination will occur through the OH:ID portal.*
- *Each business advisory council must meet at least quarterly.*
- *Each business advisory council and its school board of education must publish a joint statement, no later than the first day of March of each school year, describing how the school district or ESC and its business advisory council has fulfilled their responsibilities.*

The Licking County Business and Community Advisory Council (BCAC) and the Licking County Educational Service Center (LCESC) jointly publish the following statement on the BCAC's progress and activities for FY21:

Licking County BCAC and ESC Governing Board Joint Statement

Progress on Meeting Requirements and Responsibilities for Business Advisory Councils:

You will see below that we are addressing the three responsibilities listed above through work on our goals. We incorporated employment skills and curriculum into goals one and two. Economy changes and job market will be addressed in our completed needs assessment through goals four and five. Finally, we are addressing business and education relationships by maintaining the strong relationships that have existed in Licking County for many years in goal three. Further, we are incorporating a suggestion from the guidance document into goal six concerning the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal.

The LCESC Governing Board formally appointed members, including a representative from the Board, to the Licking County BCAC in their September, regular meeting. The Licking County BCAC submitted its approved plan before September 30, 2020. The Licking County BCAC held meetings on September 8, December 16 in 2020. We have two more scheduled meetings on March 9 and May 11 in 2021. This Joint Statement, in its entirety, will be submitted for approval in March at the Governing Board meeting of the Licking County ESC.

In August of 2020, the Licking County BCAC submitted a plan that was subsequently approved by the LCESC Governing Board and the Boards of the eight school districts aligned with the LCESC. In that plan were the following goals:

- #1 Present Implementation Strategies for teaching employment skills by March 1, 2021.
- #2 Maintain and grow the existing relationships among business, labor, and education personnel in the Licking County community.
- #3 Present Needs Assessment results to guide BCAC goals for FY22-FY25 by March 1, 2021.
- #4 Develop an action plan in response to the Needs Assessment findings and recommendations.

Progress on Goal #1, Present Strategies:

Progress on this goal was severely inhibited by the pandemic. Therefore, we will continue this goal in our next plan year.

Progress on Goal #2, Maintain and Grow Relationships:

Many of the ongoing activities of the BCAC were slowed or cancelled due to the pandemic. We will work to pick up where we left off in March of 2020.

Progress on Goal #3, Present Needs Assessment Results:

The Needs Assessment was our crowning achievement of the pandemic year. With the assistance of Grow Licking County, a collaborative effort was launched with funding partners including Facebook, Licking County Ohio Means Jobs, C-TEC, COTC, The Licking County Foundation, and the LCESC Business and Community Advisory Council. \$40,000 was gathered and invested to hire the Thomas P. Miller Company to facilitate and conduct the Needs Assessment. The results of this effort can be found at: <https://lickingcountyworks.com/skillsgap> .

Progress on Goals #4, Develop an Action Plan:

Work on this is ongoing. The collaboration group found additional funding to launch a phase two project identifying career paths in Licking County. The result of this project will be used to link schools and businesses in an effort to help our children find gameful employment and to help our businesses fill critical job openings.

In closing, the LCESC Governing Board and the Licking County BCAC are maintaining and continuing a historically productive relationship that has benefited children and the business community for years. Our plan is to maintain and grow this relationship through the coming years to help Licking County and its residents thrive.

Description of current activities to be added before publishing:

Educators in the Workplace, formerly Summer Teacher Externship Program (formally STEP)

This program is a partnership between Licking County business and industry and Licking County school districts. Teachers receive a stipend to visit a business or industry to learn about the work they do. Then, the teacher develops a lesson plan to incorporate in his or her future curriculum. School districts pay into the BCAC fund each year providing funds for scholarships that pay teacher stipends for their time at entities unable to pay the stipend. Other business partners agree to pay the stipend for this experience. Last year, due to the safety precautions being taken during the pandemic, we had only two teachers participate in the program. We hope to increase participation again this year through offering more flexible options to participants and ramping up our advertising efforts. The program is being expanded to include an option to participate during the school year.

Junior Achievement

The Junior Achievement Program is a national program that offers curriculum and volunteer instruction at all grade levels on the topic of free enterprise and entrepreneurship. In Licking County, we have traditionally offered the program to fourth grade classes. Business volunteers serve as workshop facilitators in those fourth grade classrooms.

Coughlin You Made a Difference Awards

This awards program has been sponsored by the Coughlin Automotive Group for over twenty years. One teacher from each of the eleven public school districts as well as Newark Catholic and the Licking County ESC is honored for their impact in the field of education. Each honoree receives a monetary award from Coughlin Automotive to use as they wish. A reception with music provided by one of the school districts and hors d'oeuvres served by the C-TEC culinary class is followed by the annual awards ceremony.

Transcendia Excellence in Education Awards

Transcendia is a Licking County Company that has born several names in the past, but have maintained their commitment to honor a teacher from each school district in Licking County with a beautiful glass apple and cash to be used in their classrooms. Recipients are recognized during their respective district's opening day events and again at a ceremony held at the Licking County Educational Service Center in September.

Education and Workforce Summit (Periodic Event)

This event occurs in early August. It is a ten-year collaboration of the education and business communities in Licking County. Funds from the Licking County Business and Community Advisory Committee are used to secure a prominent, keynote speaker. Breakout sessions include local business and education leaders presenting on topics that link the business and education communities. We have about two hundred school and business leaders attend this event.

Park National Bank Senior Academic Awards

Each year, the Park National Bank awards two senior students from each school district in Licking County a cash award for their academic accomplishments throughout their high school career. The students are honored at a breakfast held at the Doubletree by Hilton in downtown Newark in the spring.

Meeting Minutes attached on the subsequent pages of this document: