

GREENVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

will be the leader in educational offerings, student performance and community involvement, and will maximize the potential of each and every student.

Douglas W. Fries
Superintendent

2025 Joint Statement Business Advisory Council

Name of Business Advisory Council: Greenville City Schools Business Advisory Council

Primary Contact: Douglas W. Fries, Superintendent

Secondary Contact: Kara Allread, Business Advisory Chair

1. Are there any changes to your Business Advisory Councils' structure or leadership since you submitted your plan for this academic year? The BAC structure stayed basically the same. There was one leadership personnel change, including personnel from the Darke County Economic Development (1 new member), Olivia Schmitmeyer.

Members of the Business Advisory Committee are made up of local or regional businesses, workforce or economic development representatives, local Chamber of Commerce, local business or industry associates and other representatives or organizations with knowledge of local economy. Members also include a representative to the Board of Education, Mrs. Strawser, and the school Superintendent, Mr. Fries. Each member to the Business Advisory Committee was board approved.

The B.A.C. did establish a chairman who was Kara Allread. Kara has served in this capacity for thirteen years. The chairman did collaborate with the Superintendent to establish meeting agendas, discussion topics, and group activities for the year. A copy of the 2024-2025 B.A.C. agendas were added to the website as the meetings occurred.

2. Of goals submitting in your 2024-2025 Business Advisory Council Plan, on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being goal accomplished. What goals were you able to accomplish? See the provided response narrative.

Different members of the Business Advisory Board did attend the regular Board of Education meetings occasionally. There was a report provided monthly at the Board of Education meeting by the board representative, or Superintendent, highlighting activities in upcoming or past meetings of the B.A.C. during the 2024-2025 school year.

This year, during the Business Advisory meetings, discussion took place related to determining employment skills today and developing curriculum to instill these skills. Much discussion related to career tech skills and the necessary soft skills to become a positive contributor to the area workforce. There was also much discussion around the types of employment for which future jobs are most likely to be available. Additional discussion took place around the district curriculum and test results, including regular career tech and special education report cards. Career Technical Center updates also took place. Continuation of financial literacy courses as well as overall enrollment to career technical programs their web exam and report card results related to career tech were reviewed. Much discussion continued related to the school district, working hard with the Darke Economic Development, on having all sophomores and eighth grade students take the YouScience Aptitude Test to explore student technical skills and interest. This was the second year for the test. Hopefully, to attract students ongoing to the area business industry and manufacturing jobs or areas of career interest. The YouScience did advance in school year 2024-2025 to eighth grade students as well as tenth grade students to expand aptitude testing. Finally, the BAC discussed expansion of both their Impact Stem 2D event for women in March as well as the Jr. High STEM Manufacturing Camp in July. Both programs are looking to expand presenters to additional industry and manufacturing opportunities.



The BAC did successfully participate in and promoted activities related to tenth grade manufacturing visits and 11th and 12th grades job shadowing week. Work study programs with our business partners were successful in some areas including our Project Life with a couple area businesses and industries.

Our goal of continuing to add a second career connector coordinator has been very positive. This has resulted in the addition of the new YouScience Aptitude Test for tenth and eighth grade students and allowed for positive career mentoring conversations and discussions to take place in our high school and middle school. We hope to continue to develop this goal of aptitude testing and career mentorship discussion with the assistance of our career connection coordinator and our own counselors and career tech personnel ongoing.

During 2024-2025 the B.A.C. has continued to develop an ongoing working relationship among local businesses, labor, and educational personnel. This is evident by the local businesses, workforce development, Darke Economic Development, and the Greenville City School District working together on the fall Manufacturing Day tours for sophomores, Junior Job Shadow Week in November, and the Impact Stem 2D program this upcoming March 7, 2025. Emerging Workforce activities also included an I.G.N.I.T.E. program recognition for students working for business and industry, and the coordination of our fifth summer STEM Manufacturing Camp for junior high students. The addition of the STEM activities was well received during the camp.

a. What challenges have you experienced implementing your goals?

A challenge instituting the YouScience Aptitude Test for tenth and eighth graders has been getting the computerized program in place and getting all counselors and administrators familiar with how the program works to administer, compile, and interpret results and communicate them to students and families. Also, finding the time in the school day to test all sophomores and eighth grade students with the YouScience Aptitude Test. Working through these challenges is important to gain positive results for these aptitude tests.

The BAC continues the challenging discussion of getting students to participate in class and outside activities to come out of high school with more leadership abilities and willingness to take on leadership roles in their employment and community.

3. What new partnerships have your Business Advisory Council formed for the SY24-25?

We have had a continuation of expansion in our relationship with the Darke County Economic Development personnel working with our BAC. They have two personnel working with their council now, one related to student programs and one related to business and manufacturing companies. We now have a total of three personnel from the Darke County Economic Development program that work closely with our career tech programs and career mentoring programs for all high school students and some middle school students as well. We are also looking to increase our business industry and manufacturing participation in both our Impact Stem 2D activity and summer Jr. High STEM Manufacturing Camp.

4. Have you added or removed any goals submitted in your SY24-25 Business Advisory Council Plans? If so, please provide details.

We were able to increase our YouScience Aptitude Test goal to eighth grade students this year with our Darke Economic Development career connection coordinator. Also, we are looking to continue increasing our mentorship opportunities with career tech discussion with students through both the career connection coordinator, our guidance counselors, and career tech teachers. Hopefully, the continued availability of YouScience results will assist in this mentorship. We did remove our goal of increasing teacher visitation of area manufacturing and industry trying to run visits during the school year to increase teacher participation was problematic with substitute teachers. The goal will be to consider further in the future.

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5. Have you received any media coverage or participated in any case studies as a Business Advisory Council? If so, please provide details on the coverage and the focus of any case studies.

All of our Business Advisory Committee meetings are advertised as public meetings. At our regular board of education meetings there is a Business Advisory Committee update period on the agenda which reviews any current BAC meetings that took place.

We have not been involved in any case studies.

There is local media coverage about the Impact Stem 2D, Manufacturing STEM Camp, I.G.N.I.T.E. Awards Program, Manufacturing Day, as well as several career tech program articles and events.



Douglas W. Fries
Superintendent



Kara Allread
Chairman, B.A.C.

