

Business Advisory Council Joint Statement
2024/2025 School Year

The Apollo Career Center represents all Allen County public schools and is the representative agency for the Business Advisory Council. The following schools are represented:

Apollo Career Center | Allen County ESC | Allen East Local Schools | Bath Local Schools | Bluffton Exempted Village Schools
Delphos City Schools | Elida Local Schools | Lima City Schools | Perry Local Schools
Shawnee Local Schools | Spencerville Local Schools

The Business Advisory Council (BAC) has superintendent representatives from each school district listed above.

Our plans include:

1. We will continue to support the Makerfest event. This event was a success as business and industry leaders interacted with over 1400 freshman and sophomore students from the region. The 2025 event is scheduled for October 9 -10, 2025, at the Allen County Fairgrounds. The Allen Economic Development Group is the leading organization for this event with significant assistance from the BAC. More information can be found at: <https://makerfestevent.com/>
2. We want to continue to promote networking between school and business officials. Our approach will be for individual businesses to get in front of superintendents and school personnel. The most recent event of this type was held in November when we had a roundtable discussion with area human resource leaders.
3. The BAC is working with the Allen County Educational Service Center to host their third annual college fair on March 27, 2025.
4. We have scheduled a BAC tour of Cenovus on April 2, 2025, a local refinery that is a large employer in our region.
5. We had a presentation at Delphos Jefferson schools to see their STEM and FFA programming.
6. During the summer of 2024, we held a week-long educator bootcamp where 15 educators from the region learned about business, industry and economic development.
7. The BAC is supporting a job fair sponsored by OhioMeansJobs of Allen County. This is scheduled to take place on May 6, 2025, and will be the second countywide job fair that the BAC supports with respect to communication and facilitation.
8. The steering committee will continue to work towards developing effective/beneficial activities and will continue to consider other initiatives that may be beneficial to the Business Advisory Council.

The primary contact for the BAC is Keith Horner who can be reached at Apollo Career Center.