

Twinsburg City School District
Business Advisory Council (BAC) Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2023
Twinsburg Public Library ~ 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Rob Felber (TCSD BOE), Mark Curtis (TCSD BOE), Matt Strickland (Business Manager TCSD), Belinda McKinney (Director of Human Resources TCSD), Alex Popovich (Curriculum Supervisor), Emily Williamson Hunt (Assistant Principal THS), Todd Courtney (Crown Composites), Jennifer Goings-Smith (Eaton Corp. Retiree), Matt Cellura (M & G Pools), Ameeca Holmes (ConXus NEO), Laura Leonard (Twinsburg Public Library), Allyson Tonozzi (Twinsburg Chamber of Commerce), Toni Cluse (CVCC Career Specialist)

Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

Minutes from the February 21, 2023 meeting were approved.

Update from the Board Members – Rob Felber:

- The District is following union contract procedures and working with TEA and TSSA regarding the reductions in staff.
- Trying not to impact classrooms.
- Other cuts were made in other departments first – i.e. Business Department (central purchasing), cancellation of unused software/apps
- The Board approved at their last meeting to partner with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC)/Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP). OFCC/ELPP will provide free assessments and some reimbursement for building projects.
- Thank you to the Chamber for their help with the Pancake Breakfast - had 29 businesses as compared to 20 last year. Attendance was great.

Update from the Board Members – Mark Curtis:

- Partnership with OFCC/ELPP will allow some reimbursement of building project costs to the District based on enrollment numbers and other factors. Trying to offset costs of a new building and lessen the burden on the tax payers as much as possible.
- District continues to advocate at the State level regarding the Fair Funding Model.

Updates – Matt Strickland on behalf of Kathi Powers:

- Northcoast Invitational went very well.
- The March 11th Pancake Breakfast had a great turnout.
- Adding on to Rob and Mark's comments regarding the OFCC/ELPP: The OFCC/ELPP offers just about the best free professional resources – basically the State of Ohio audits our buildings and offers assistance in the revision of our Facilities Master Plan as well as with updated enrollment figures.
- Things are wrapping up for the year in the buildings. Check the District website

for the latest information on events.

***Michelle Washington - Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education,
Program Specialist - Office of Graduate Success at the ODE:***

- Provides help to school districts and their Business Advisory Councils as well as providing direction on the role of local and ESC Business Advisory Councils in career advising.
- Career advising is “an integrated process that helps students understand how their personal interests, strengths, and values might predict satisfaction and success in school and related career fields, as well as how to tie these interests and strengths to academic and career goals”. Career advising is important no matter what field or path a student takes after graduation.
- In the 2020-2021 school year, Business Advisory Councils offered Career Exploration Opportunities to 51.43% of students. That number rose to 66.67% in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Statewide Examples of BAC’s:

Building Bridges to Careers: offered virtual discovery days to help expose students to various career paths. Over the past year, this council organized 148 job shadowing experiences and 488 mentoring hours for students through business and community organizations.

Cuyahoga Falls City Schools: hosted career speakers from various industries in all buildings. Career nights for seniors and juniors helped students learn about careers that align with their interests.

Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio: provided career exploration bus tours to students in grades 7-12 and helped organize professional lunch and learn events. The council also offers LifeSkills training to foster career planning, especially for high-risk youth.

- The structure of BAC meetings plays an important role in facilitating opportunities for students. It is important to align the opportunities with the competencies being taught.
- It is crucial to provide professional development to teachers on how the subject matters will apply to later careers. There are specific programs that are state funded that are comprised of licensed teachers providing professional development on career advising and how to realign the content areas back to careers – (Michelle will send information to Alex on the programs)
- Columbiana is a District that does a great job of taking teachers into various work environments and providing resources to those teachers on what is needed for a particular career.
- Licking County Educational Service Center’s Business Advisory Council provided externships that allowed educators to participate in summer learning experiences where they were immersed in Licking County businesses. Educators completed two assignments that supported student engagement.
- Lorain County Educational Service Center’s Business Advisory Council hosted educator tours in the manufacturing, IT and healthcare industries.

- Representation of businesses on BAC's is very important. BAC's should be "Partnered Right not Partnered Rich" - all industries need to be represented on BAC's to provide guidance to students on opportunities – Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, Financial Services, Food & Agribusiness, Technology, Energy & Chemicals, Automotive, and Logistics & Distribution.
- Updated Business Advisory Councils map is on the ODE website with resources also listed.
- Rob Felber likes the PD resources for teachers.
- Career advising needs to start at the Pre-K level. Career awareness starts in the home. Assign roles - electrician, police officer talk to them about what role means
- Helpful Videos - In Demand Jobs Week website; resources for all grades based on grade bands; provides career exposure activities for younger grades
- Todd Courtney does believe TCSD BAC does need representation in more areas - healthcare specifically.

Recap of Job Fair held on March 14th, 2023 – Alex Popovich

- 47 businesses participated (26 last year).
- 500-600 students came through.
- Will be reviewing comments from students as well as employers and take into consideration for next year.
- Jersey Mike's hired 3 students that attended the fair.
- Employers were impressed with the students.
- Possibly have a short video for employers on what to expect and tips on how to talk to students.
- Difficulty trying to figure out what each employer was looking for – internships, summer work, etc. Need to do a better job of collecting information from employers before the fair and organize by what employer is looking for. Need more opportunities for 15 and 16 year olds.
- March 6, 2024 is the date for the next fair.

❖ Proposed next meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 @ 8:00 a.m. - Twinsburg Public Library

Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Meeting Minutes approved on May 30, 2023