

2025-2026 Business Advisory Council Joint Statement

Name of Business Advisory Council (BAC):

Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center Business Advisory Council (MVBAC)

Primary Contact:

Eastin Lewellen, Assistant Superintendent

Secondary Contact:

Julie MacLaine, Manager of Strategic Initiatives

Has there been any change in the structure or leadership of your Business Advisory Council since you submitted your plan for this academic year? If yes, please provide details.

Yes. Eastin Lewellen continues to serve as Primary Contact. Julie MacLaine now serves as Secondary Contact. The council structure remains unchanged and continues to represent school districts, business leaders, higher education, workforce development, economic development, and community stakeholders throughout the region.

Of goals submitted in your 2025-2026 Business Advisory Council Plan, on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being fully accomplished...

9/10

What goals were you able to accomplish?

During the 2025-2026 school year, MVBAC advanced all three required quality practices. The council expanded AI OWL programming and educator training opportunities, increased participation in the Appalachian STEM Collaborative, continued expansion of the MVESC childcare initiative, expanded Driver's Education opportunities, increased Healthcare Preceptorship placements through Genesis Healthcare, continued JA Inspire career exploration programming serving over 2,000 students, and expanded Ohio Tech Internship opportunities throughout the region.

What challenges have you experienced implementing your goals?

As programs continue to expand, challenges include coordinating activities across a large geographic region, increasing employer participation, securing sufficient internship placements, transportation barriers for students, workforce shortages within key industries, and scaling successful programs while maintaining high-quality implementation.

What new partnerships has your Business Advisory Council formed for the 2025-2026 school year? Please list any new business partners, organizations, or community stakeholders that have been added.

MVBAC strengthened partnerships with AI OWL, Appalachian STEM Collaborative, FuturePlans, Genesis Healthcare, SOCHE, Zane State College, Ohio Valley ESC, Junior Achievement, OhioMeansJobs partners, Perry County JFS, Perry County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Muskingum County Commissioners, Straker Foundation, and additional regional employers representing healthcare, manufacturing, technology, education, construction, transportation, and workforce development.

Have you added or removed any goals from your 2025-2026 Business Advisory Council Plan? If so, please provide specific details on these changes.

No major goals were removed. Several initiatives expanded beyond their original scope, including Healthcare Preceptorships, Ohio Tech Internships, AI OWL programming, Driver's Education expansion, and childcare workforce initiatives.

Has your Business Advisory Council received any media coverage or participated in any case studies during this school year? If yes, please provide details on the coverage and the focus of any case studies.

Yes. MVBAC received recognition through the Ohio Business-Education Leader Awards for Excellent Business Advisory Councils and maintained its Four-Star Business Advisory Council designation. Regional media coverage highlighted the Driver's Education Program, Healthcare Preceptorship Program, JA Inspire Career Event, AI workforce readiness initiatives, and collaborative workforce development partnerships.