



**NorthEast Ohio Business Advisory Council
Friday, October 16, 2020 – Virtual Meeting
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio

Agenda Minutes

- 9:30-9:40 **Welcome and Introductions**
Nadine Grimm, Coordinator of 21st Century Learning at the ESC NEO, welcomed 31 participants to the first virtual BAC meeting of the 2020-2021 academic year.
- 9:40-10:45 **The Northeast Ohio Economy Pre- and Post-COVID**
Presenters: Jim Trutko, Adam Snyder
- 9:40-10:15 **Jim Trukto, Economic Analyst and Consultant**
Mr. Trutko is a market research and economic analyst, consultant, writer, public policy analyst, and data visualization professional. He has held positions with *The Plain Dealer*, Greater Cleveland Growth Association and as a writer for *Crain's Cleveland Business*. He updated BAC participants about the historical economic contraction and slow rebound pre- and post-Covid in the Northeast Ohio region. Data show that between 2001 and 2019, Cleveland has lost 3300 businesses, particularly as a result of the 2009 recession. Subsequently, from 2014-2019, there was slow growth in the manufacturing sector. Most job gains are in the service sector, which does not offer high income, high demand wages and jobs. BAC participants inquired about internship opportunities and retail and hospitality sectors for students. Most employers have reduced those job opportunities and many that were traditionally held by high school students are now filled by college or adult employees.
- 10:15-10:50 **Adam Snyder, Workforce Connect Manufacturing Sector Partnership**
Mr. Snyder is the Managing Director of the Workforce Connect Manufacturing Sector Partnership for Cuyahoga County. The sector partnership seeks to aggregate the needs and voice of industry across the county and works closely with the Ohio Manufacturers Association to coordinate best practices across the state. He shared strategies that business leaders are developing in response to industry needs and to prepare youth for the manufacturing workforce of the future. Every manufacturing job fuels two or three other jobs, so the manufacturing sector is anxious not only to train and employ youth for manufacturing, but also to be the growth engine for our region's

economy. They wish to tap into the abundance of diverse people within our region, providing them with upwork skills and sustainable wages for the in-demand jobs in advanced manufacturing, IT, and Healthcare. They are partnering with school districts' CTE programs, implementing on ramps for underrepresented students, particularly scaffolding first-job skills into in-demand jobs, and working across the sectors to become advocates for key policy changes to enable the partnerships of businesses with the potential workforce. He encouraged districts to tap into their alumni to create school-business relationships, discover the needs of businesses in their areas, and to provide students with college/career development and readiness curriculum.

10:50-11:00 **Business Advisory Council Update**

Paula Kucinic, ESC NEO Director of Professional Development and Instructional Technology updated members on grants submitted for Governors Workforce Development, STEM + Computer Science, and on ODE BAC requirements.

Next meeting of the NEOBAC: Dec. 3, 2021 - Virtual

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.