



Workforce Investment Board

Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Rick Wegmann, Marvene Mitchell Cook, Cassie Barlow, Linda Ashworth, Hank Betts, David Cox, Shannon Cox, Angelia Erbaugh, Tawana Jones, Jeffrey Miller, Diane Walsh, Erik Collins, Mike Wilson, David Lawrence, and Jennifer Duwel

Guests Present: Nikol Miller, Amy Piner, Jagur Beaschler, Garth McLean, Larry Lash, Karla Creel, Jacqueline Williams, Susan Warren, Micheal Stern, Amy Schrimpf, Lori Geary, John Trott, Megan O'Toole, Sherry Gale, Lisa Rindler, Quinn Howard, Jennifer Bonifas, Lance Detrick, Matthew Folkerth, Melinda Clark, Mindy Clark, Jen McCormick, and Erin Dooley

Purpose of WIB: The Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board purpose is to drive strategic alliances that advance the region's workforce initiatives and ultimately the region's economic vitality.

Role and Function: The role of WIB is to manage the strategic direction of workforce development activities through investment in people, fulfilling employer needs, and improving the quality of life in Montgomery County.

Call to Order, Welcome, Announcements and Review and Approval of the Minutes: Chair, Rick Wegmann

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve by Cassie Barlow, Second by Hank Betts. Minutes approved without discussion.

John Trott – Greater Ohio Workforce Board (GOWBI)

Three items to go over the first being that anytime we have an administration change at a federal or state level we have a period of uncertainty. At Federal level, where our WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) money comes from, some of the money goes into supporting the workforce efforts in Montgomery County and we have seen those funds stabilize a bit and maybe also rise a little bit. No reason to believe this will change at all and funding should be similar to what it was in past.

At the state level, we are often successful in funding new initiatives, new projects in Montgomery County and other places in the region. Our oversight agency the Ohio Department of Job and Family services, had some different budget structures that took place that ate up a lot of unused funds. So, we're seeing the state constrict their discretionary funds. They've certainly been helpful to us and continue to be helpful, but the bigger amounts of money that they're pushing out for things like business outreach, or some innovation projects are getting slimmer, so we'll see that tighten up.

In terms of innovations and technology, there are VR (virtual reality) headsets we've been employing across the region and that you have been employing in your region to help younger workers or experienced workers see in virtual reality what new job prospects look like. This year pushing out new mobile messaging called **engage by cell**, which will enable us to send text message information to our job seekers and businesses and also push them small apps that were developed specifically for the job center.

With some of money received last year we were able to reach out to Lightcast and engage them to do a deep dive into the Montgomery County region. This information will be available to you in 3 weeks and presented at next GOBI board meeting. That will all be pushed to you through Marvene and team. This should be very insightful.

Introduction of Nikol Miller, Executive Director, Miami Valley Urban League

Marvene Mitchell Cook – Montgomery County Workforce Development

Thank you to John Trott, his team, and the board for allowing us to bring the out-of-school youth component in house here with Youth Services as this will allow us to align that with our fourteen elements.

We are working with strategic initiatives and learning there are a lot of grants here in Montgomery County, which we normally do not go for, but working with that team to see how we can align it with the Workforce Investment Board.

Working on yearend reviews and deadlines.

Presenters: Dr. David Lawrence, Superintendent, Erin Dooley, Chief of College and Career Readiness Partnership, and Matthew Folkerth, Director of Career Tech Education, and Mindy Clark, Director of Accountability for Dayton Public Schools.

Dr. David Lawrence, Superintendent

Lisa Minor was unable to make it. Dayton Public Schools has about 2,600 employees, 13,200 students, and it's about a \$420 million operation every year. One of the most important things we do is college and career readiness. Last year an entire division created dedicated solely to that. And couldn't think of anyone better to lead that than Miss Erin Dooley, former principal of Stivers School of the Arts for 21 years.

Erin Dooley, Chief of College, and Career Readiness Partnership

DPS Academic Action Plan: High School Readiness, Freshman Success, and Postsecondary Success Plan for all students in grades 7-12.

Matthew Folkerth, Director of Career Tech Education

What is Career Tech – It is not Vocational, It is about exploring, It is about gaining skills, and It's a fast track. Graduation is the beginning of the journey. Post Secondary success is the goal for all students.

Graduation is not the only goal:

- We are preparing our students for a Post-Secondary world. State of Career Technology Education at Dayton Public Schools: Ponitz Career Technology Center – 14 Programs, Stivers School for the Arts -3 Programs, Rosa Parks Early Learning Center – 1 Program.
- Other Programs include Project Search, Adult Transition Unit, and Project Life.
- In closing I oversee the Career Tech Department and believe that we are embodying the mission of Dayton Public Schools, which is to inspire, educate, and empower.

Mindy Clark, Director of Accountability

- Our Career Tech Programs, just like all schools get a report card and our Career Tech Programs are doing a phenomenal job. We have an overall rating of 4 out of 5 stars, and our career and post-secondary readiness has a rating of 5 out of 5 stars. As well our graduation is 4 out of 5 too.
- How Students are doing: In 2022-23 vs. 2023-24 we grew by over 100%, it's actually 150% in our credit 12-point credential attainment. Students are coming out with those credentials and ready to go into the workforce. Also, we have numerous students who are passing their work keys and their web exams and ready to take on what is next.

Dr. David Lawrence, Superintendent, Dayton Public Schools

We are embarking on a journey that is transformative, by providing from preschool to 12th grade guaranteed experiences through Ford Next Generation Learning. So, our idea is how do we prepare students from preschool thinking about their careers? That's what's really important. That's the part of the report card that matters to us and for us it's about how do we transform teaching and learning. That's a given when you are in schools, but what's not a given is culture, systems, and structures. They talk about schoolwork, but they don't talk about culture, systems, and structures, because if you do that, we can set things up that will last the current administration. And the final piece is about partnerships and community. Plan is to systematically add partners. Phase one which is explore Ford NGL, and now in phase two, which is envision. There are five phases we were told would take about four to five years, on behalf of Miss Lisa Minor, Associate Superintendent goal to be done in two. We are rapidly moving with a dynamic team to get through this space.

Presenters: Lance Detrick, President and CEO and Jennifer Bonifas, Vice President and Chief Mission Officer, Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley, Excell Program

Mission Statement – Our Mission is to empower people with disabilities and other disadvantages to achieve independence and improve their quality of life.

Overview

- Provide services in 29 counties, including 2 in Kentucky
- 42 retail stores and 75 locations
- Approximately 1,400 employees
- Over 22,000 people served last year and assisted in over 1,000 placements into employment.
- Provide services across 6 departments: Vocational Training, Employment Services, Behavioral Health, Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities, Senior, Children Services

What is Excel Center

- Goodwill high school for adults without a high school diploma
- Started in 2010 by Goodwill-Indianapolis

Different than traditional high School:

- Accelerated classes
- Flexible schedule/Free Childcare
- Coaching & Support/Small Classes
- College and Career Pathways

For Goodwill-Indianapolis's Excel Centers, Demographics are:

- Average age 27 (Kentucky 31)
- 68% Female/32% Male
- 47% have school-age children
- 40% Multi-racial/27% White/10% Black/20% Hispanic/3% Asian.
- In Ohio, 870,000 people do not have a high school diploma

Why do we need an Excel Center?

- In Ohio – 870,00 people (age 18 and over) do not have a high school diploma
- In our GESMV territory – 165,615 people (age 18 and over) do not have a high school diploma
- In Montgomery County – 34,607 people (age 18 and over) do not have a high school diploma
- In our GESMV territory – 8.98% of people (age 18 and over) do not have a high school diploma, (approximately 1 out of 11 people (age 18 and over)
- Data from 2022 American Community Survey indicates that:
 - Individuals 25 years and older with a high school diploma have median annual earnings of \$46,007 vs. individuals without who have median annual earnings of \$26,360

In the Feasibility Study they indicate:

- 40% of Excel Center Graduates go on to postsecondary education
- 76% of Graduates pursuing postsecondary education will have a 2-year persistence rate

Things to consider at local and state level as GESMV seeks to launch Ohio's first Excell Center

- Currently no variable funded model for in-person, adult education past the age of 24 exists.
- Legislative change at the state level will be required to start an Excel Center and include operational and financial language conducive to an Excel Center.
- GESMV anticipates strong local support and confident can garner support at state level particularly if Excel Center packaged as workforce development.
- Potential revenue streams are changes in legislation to amend charter school rates conducive to support an Excel Center or establish funding as a pilot program for Workforce Development

GESMV's "Ask" for the Workforce Investment Board

- A letter of support for an eventual bill to establish a structure and funding Mechanism for an Excel Center in Ohio
- Advocacy with local employers and community
- An understanding of the Excel Center model and its function as a workforce development program with the goal being not only a high school diploma, but meaningful employment.

Board Comments

Rick Wegmann – This is a meaningful initiative that if we can make happen as a community will make a major impact on our citizens and possibly across the state of Ohio.

Amy Piner – Commissioner Liebermann sends her regards from Hawaii. Taking some time to rejuvenate after loss of her father and other things that have happened over the last week or so. She wanted to thank the board for your commitment to county workforce, and she hopes that she's going to be able to continue this work, and we all hope that as well. She wanted to share with you that she will continue to be a voice for those who feel voiceless and take on initiatives that move people forward.

Dr. David Lawrence – Good to see Goodwill Easter Seals again and I have quick story to share about them, I was walking through Charter School that was spotless and asked who cleans this building and they said Goodwill Easter Seals. They now are the primary trainers for our custodians at Dayton Public Schools. This is an amazing organization.

Also, a lot of conversations with Mayor's office regarding violence intervention and an interruption program that he's getting ready to roll out. I want to say for DPS our violence interruption is how do we get kids career? Careers that are fulfilling and people that are in them are one of the best ways both short term and long term to reduce violence.

Meeting Adjourned – 10:15 AM

2025 Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

Wednesday, November 12, 2025