

Board Report September 2026 Casie Grau, School-Community Partnership Coordinator

Crestline Exempted Village School District

Our Career Connection Team is providing classroom instruction each school day at Crestline High School. Our learning objectives for the students include obtaining self-awareness around their career interests and skills, researching careers and labor market data, gaining employability and workplace skills, building community connections with guests from local businesses, and creating a personalized career portfolio. The work in the classroom this year is part of a long-term plan to assist Crestline in developing an extensive career-connected framework within their school system.

Business Advisory Council (BAC)

The first BAC meeting will be held on September 30th at Charter Next Generation (CNG) in Lexington, Ohio. This is a great step towards a broader partnership with CNG, who would like to better engage in the community and local schools. September 30th is also the due date for the submission of our BAC Plan and Addendum to ODEW. The plan is being finalized, and superintendents are currently submitting their answers to a required BAC survey within OHID as part of this process.

TurboCert

The Phlebotomy and Drone Operations & Safety TurboCert programs are underway in Crawford County at the Crawford Success Center. OptIC Fiber Splicing Training will start September 25th in Morrow County at the Miller Center. The Phlebotomy program in Richland County is set to start October 5th at Mid-Ohio ESC. We are also working to create a new, “approved bundle” under the Innovative Workforce Incentive Program (IWIP) for our phlebotomy program, which will no longer be a stand-alone credential. Additionally, we are working to obtain instructor licensing for two more individuals to teach our FANUC Robotics program.

Career Pathway Support Network (CPSN)

In addition to attending the CPSN ESC Leads meetings, I have been working to establish some key relationships within the Career Pathway Support Network to gain clarity on the work that needs accomplished. I have met with two CPSN consultants and will be attending a CPSN Workforce Alignment meeting on September 15th. Additionally, I will be scheduling meetings for those within our Cluster Region of Ashland, Richland, and Wayne Counties to discuss strategies for future work.

Ohio Educational Service Center (OESCA) Fall Conference

We will be facilitating a breakout session at the OESCA’s Fall Conference on September 8th. Our presentation is “*From Classroom to Career: Building Tomorrow’s Workforce Through Industry Credentials Today*”, and it highlights the TurboCert program while walking session attendees through the program’s development, funding model, credential pathways, and employer partnerships. Attendees will gain practical steps for creating their own industry credential program.