



WCBAC Student Workforce Success Showcase

Advancing Employer Engagement, Student Voice, and Career-Connected Learning

The Student Workforce Success Showcase highlighted how Warren County school districts are preparing students for meaningful career pathways while strengthening collaboration between education and industry. The event provided seven of the county's eleven districts an opportunity to share how their students are engaging in work-based learning through internships, job shadows, and school-based enterprises. By bringing educators, students, and business leaders together, the showcase not only celebrated student success but also created a sense of urgency around expanding employer engagement and discovering new ways for schools and industry to collaborate in preparing the future workforce. The event clearly demonstrated alignment with three key quality practices: employer engagement, student voice, and career-connected learning.

Employer Engagement

A primary objective of the showcase was to strengthen connections between schools and the local business community. Employers had the opportunity to see firsthand how students are gaining relevant workforce experience and developing professional skills through work-based learning. As districts shared their programs and outcomes, business partners were able to identify ways they could become more involved through internships, job shadowing, mentorship, advisory roles, and other collaborative opportunities. Seeing the impact of these programs created a renewed sense of urgency for employers to engage more intentionally in developing the local talent pipeline while exploring new and innovative ways to partner with schools.

Student Voice

Students were at the heart of the showcase. District presentations were given by students who participated in internships, job shadow opportunities, school-based businesses, and other work-based learning opportunities. Their stories illustrated the transformative impact of hands-on learning - building confidence, strengthening workplace readiness, and helping them envision their future careers. Elevating student voice allowed educators and business leaders to better understand how real-world experiences influence students' aspirations and skill development, reinforcing the importance of creating opportunities that reflect student interests and goals.

Career-Connected Learning

The showcase also served as a powerful demonstration of career-connected learning in action. Districts demonstrated how classroom learning is being connected to real-world applications through partnerships with local employers and community organizations. Students are not only learning academic concepts but also applying them in authentic workplace environments where they develop critical professional skills such as communication, teamwork, problem solving, and responsibility. Additionally, the showcase allowed districts to learn from one another, strengthening regional collaboration and encouraging the adoption of new strategies for implementing work-based learning.

Building a Stronger Regional Workforce

The Student Workforce Success Showcase highlighted the progress being made across Warren County to prepare students for the workforce while strengthening partnerships between schools and employers. By aligning with the quality practices of employer engagement, student voice, and career-connected learning, the event demonstrated how collaboration can create meaningful opportunities for students and help build a stronger talent pipeline for the region's future.