**NKY College & Career Connector**

Report: December 2023

**College & Career Counselor Network (CCCN) Meeting, Jan 13th, 2023**

Attended by: 11 educators / 8 high schools / 7 Districts

4 x NaviGo Staff / 1 x NKCES Staff / 7 x Partners

Presenters: 3 x DHL Team – WBL Opportunities for students

Caitlin Fugate, Gateway – NKY FAME Program

Liz Crenshaw, Arlinghaus Plumbing, Heat & Air – WBL Opportunities for students

Whitney O’Neal, Cincinnati Scholarship Foundation – Scholarship opportunities

Kim Dunn, Supply Chain OKI - WBL opportunities for students

**Direct work with students**

* Worked with 23 students at Newport HS – success after graduation.
* 2 x Days at the Ignite Institute (Circa 220 students) presenting on Resumes, Cover Letters, and Interview Techniques
* One-to-one with a Simon Kenton Student – Internship
* Transportation plan/support for a Lloyd Memorial HS student

**School Engagement:**

* **Campbell County**: Compiled a list of local training opportunities for students interested in entering into the trades after high school, including scholarship opportunities, cost comparison, and pros/cons, etc.
* **Boone**: Connected Conner HS with a business partner that will provide Financial Literacy training for students, and also coordinate a tour of one of their facilities.
* **Walton Verona**: Working with Walton Verona Middle School to provide contacts for businesses that will attend a career fair at the school
* **Kenton**: recruiting businesses to participate in the Kenton County District Career Fair in March 2023
* **Dayton, Bellevue & Newport:** recruiting businesses to participate in their Three City Career Fair in March 2023
* **iLEAD Academy:** attended the CS71 Advisory Board Meeting to learn more about the new I.T. program being launched in the 2024 school year
* **Ignite Institute:** met with Ignite’s Internship Coordinator to look at data collection with a view if designing a data collection process that can be rolled out to all schools – we need to showcase our regional WBL efforts by industry sector.
* **River Cities Districts:** attended the monthly River Cities School Districts Network meeting to inform them of the WBL opportunities currently available (including upcoming group opportunities and summer experiences) and to plan for dual-enrollment opportunities with our training hubs for the 2024 school year.
* **All districts:** Dispersed (weekly to 250+ educators) a spreadsheet capturing all the current WBL opportunities available to schools and students in the region

**Employer Engagement:**

1. Met with and toured staff at the **Electrical Training Center** in Cincinnati – this center serves the greater Cincinnati region and can offer WBL opportunities to our NKY students, along with apprenticeship opportunities after graduation.
2. Met with and toured CINFAB, a HVAC and Plumbing company in Cincinnati – again, this center serves the greater Cincinnati region and can offer WBL opportunities to our NKY students, along with apprenticeship opportunities after graduation.
3. Continued planning (with Jurgensen Companies) for the implementation of the MACC Tech program (Mining, Asphalt, Concrete and Construction Technology) – in-depth discussion on curriculum development.
4. Met with the HR team at Arlinghaus Plumbing, Heating and Air-Conditioning – this team is working diligently to develop a robust WBL program and are looking at ways that U18s can intern.
5. Met with the HR Director if ION Apex, an Electrical company that can provide WBL opportunities to students, including the opportunity for students to commence an apprenticeship while still in high school.
6. Met with Lois Post (St. Elizabeth) to discuss upcoming summer opportunities for students – healthcare summer camps, volunteering, the MOON program, etc.
7. Participated in Supply Chain OKI’s Workforce Advisory Group (made up of educators from both OH and NKY) to plan for the 2024 WBL program – this is an excellent group with strong participation by our NKY educators.
8. Met with Supply Chain OKI’s NKY Youth Program Manager to discuss and plan for Teacher Externships for this summer.
9. Participated in the Health Collaborative’s Workforce Advisory Group and participated in their quarterly meeting this month – they are forming a smaller group that will meet in person to plan and roll out WBL opportunities for students.
10. Presented to the INTERalliance Board to discuss how they can better partner with and support our NKY schools
11. Met with and toured the NKY School of Rock to determine if this could be an internship site for some of our students interested in this field – music, sound/light engineering, business, media/broadcasting, marketing, etc.
12. Toured Perfetti Van Melle to learn of their operation and company culture. Perfetti offers tours and guest speakers but can only take on over 18s for internships. However, we are working to see how we can make this happen and still remain in compliance with their policies.
13. Working with the Learning Grove leadership team to develop a tailored Employability Skills training program for potential new-hires – Learning Grove offers paid internships to high school students.

**Community Partner Engagement:**

* The connector (along with the rest of the NaviGo team) met Brighton Center’s Workforce Development team to solidify our partnership – Brighton Center staff will present to College & Career Counselors at our February CCCN meeting with the intention of connecting with upcoming graduates that may need support after high school (financial, employment, paid internship, wraparound services, etc.)
* The NaviGo team met with the Executive Director of Adopt-A-Class (a professional mentoring program that partners middle schools with businesses for mentorship) to see how we can align services. This program, serving low-income communities within 2 NKY middle schools, would like to expand into some of our other middle schools.
* The Connector is part of the Core Team for the Greater Cincinnati Mentor Leadership Alliance, and met with the team to plan for Advocacy and mentor recruitment.
* As the lead for GROW Pillar 2, Objective 2 (dispersing of WBL opportunities and gathering relevant regional WBL data), I facilitated two meetings this month (including 6 educators and 3 business partners) to look at how best we can gather regional data to showcase NKY and the amazing work that is going on with and for students. This data collection will be piloted next month with a view to rolling out to all schools in the Fall.
* Attended the GROW Pillar 2 meeting and presented on Objective 2 as well as updated the group on the developments with MyCareerE3.
* Attended the first Talent Collaborative convening to learn of their work and the plans they have in place to serve our schools – there may be some funding opportunities available to schools through this collaborative (form the National Fund)

**Showcasing the work of the NKY College & Career Connector:**

* Completed a Podcast with the NKY Chamber to talk about WBL and the work going on regionally, and to really discuss how businesses can get involved – should be aired next month
* Met with the NKY Business Journal to talk about my work – this is part of a larger article that will be released in celebration of NaviGo’s 10-year anniversary and is a great way to showcase the great work that is going on within our schools AND recruit new businesses to participate and partner.