

# GROW NKY

Growing Regional Outcomes through Workforce



## GROW NKY: College & Career Readiness Update for NKCES Board October 2021

GROW NKY is a strategic workforce collective comprised of leaders across key industries, educational institutions and community organizations working collaboratively to leverage the region's assets to grow, attract and retain a globally competitive workforce. The Northern Kentucky Chamber serves as the backbone organization leading the strategic workforce collective. GROW NKY focuses on five key areas of workforce development, following a cradle-to-career model. The College & Career Readiness (CCR) focus of GROW NKY aligns the work of partners in the College & Career Readiness space including NKY school districts, post-secondary institutions, industry sector organizations and businesses, and non-profit/community organizations. Each month, an update is provided by partners engaged in the GROW NKY collective, under the leadership of the NKCES, on the strategies & outcomes contributing to the regional goal. Over 75 partners are engaged in the College & Career Readiness focus area of GROW NKY.

**The overall College & Career Readiness goal for NKY is to increase the percentage of students who meet one or more KDE college or career readiness measures.**

4 key objective goals established by P2 partners include:

- 1) Increase awareness of high-need, high-growth NKY careers
- 2) Increase work-based learning (WBL) experiences for ALL students
- 3) Through identifying talents and passions, increase student post-graduation plans
- 4) Increase participation in dual credit general education and career and technical programs

-Each week identified district-level and school-level contacts across 23 NKY school districts receive a Work-Based Learning update from the NKY College & Career Connector (Lorraine O'Moore) with updates on WBL taking place across NKY, as well as opportunities and resources available to students. In addition, Shellie Baker, NKY Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator is hosting monthly College & Career

Network meetings to support the access educators have career exploration & WBL connections. **\*\*A monthly KY Youth Apprenticeship Program/NKY College & Career Connector report is available upon request for updates on WBL and the MyCareerE3 platform.**

MYCAREERE3 DASHBOARD			
Student Accounts	School Accounts (With listed School Coordinators)	Business/Partner Accounts	Active WBL Opportunities
110	25 (out of 33)	61	(Group and individual opportunities)
WBL Internship & Co-op Opportunities within MyCareerE3			129
WBL Volunteer Opportunities for individual students (Healthcare)			80
WBL Opportunities (Group & Individual) within MyCareerE3			66
WBL Opportunities outside of MycareerE3 (Group & Individual - Weekly WBL Email)			40
Total WBL Opportunities for week ending 08/27/21			106

-Superintendent Chad Molley (P2 Lead) continues to work with GROW NKY and the NKY College & Career Connections team on improvements to the communications process to NKCES school districts (and beyond) as it relates to connections to employers and WBL experiences. An updated Master Contact List has been developed and is awaiting approval from Superintendents at each district – which will include District Level contacts, HS Level contacts and a MyCareerE3 contact for each district/school. This is an effort to ensure the opportunities offered by employers and employer collaborative partners are getting to the right Point of Contact at all schools for engagement of students and equitable access to opportunities.

-GROW NKY (in partnership with NKCES and NaviGo) recently kicked off an **Employer Collaborative Info Session Series** with presentations from Supply Chain OKI (supply chain & logistics) and INTERalliance (information technology). The series features a different industry sector each week, with employer partners within that sector, and is designed to provide industry-specific opportunities/connections for school district level and HS level contacts. Series schedule and remaining sessions are noted below. All sessions are being held at the NKY Chamber of Commerce.

**GROW NKY Partners present**

## Employer Collaborative Info Sessions

**SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS**  
Friday, September 24 | 9:00-10:00 AM  
(Supply Chain OKI)

**IT (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)**  
Friday, October 1 | 9:00-10:00 AM  
(INTERalliance)

**CONSTRUCTION/SKILLED TRADES**  
Friday, October 22 | 9:00-10:00 AM  
(Allied Construction Industries -ACI)

**HEALTHCARE**  
Friday, October 29 | 9:00-10:00 AM  
(The Health Collaborative)

**MANUFACTURING**  
Friday, November 5 | 9:00-10:00 AM  
(Advanced Manufacturing Industry Partnership -AMIP)

Each session will be held at the **NKY Chamber of Commerce, 300 Buttermilk Pike, Fort Mitchell KY**

-Inspire to Hire with Junior Achievement is more than a career fair. It brings together the business community and local schools to help launch students into their futures. It includes:

- JA's career exploration curriculum is available to schools to be presented by the classroom teacher in advance of the expo.
- On March 9<sup>th</sup> - Inspire to Hire Expo Event - a 90-minute interactive and hands-on exploration of our region's hot jobs for grades 8 through 10.
- On March 10<sup>th</sup> - a Job Expo leading to company interviews for grades 11 and 12 and
- A virtual experience that showcases JA Inspire exhibitors, recorded videos, and live discussions. Interested companies can connect with Amanda Johannemann for more info.

-On November 4<sup>th</sup>, The Health Collaborative is hosting healthFORCE 2021 as a virtual career exploration event for area high schools connected to the careers in healthcare. Healthcare companies interested in participating can connect by contacting Amanda Johannemann.

The event will feature:

- Panel of exciting healthcare professionals
- Engaging, interactive exhibitor booths on various healthcare professions & topics
- Live chat feature for students to ask questions & discuss
- FREE raffles for gift cards & other prizes
- "What's next?!" packet sent to every registered guest to extend the experience

-A unique partnership between Cincinnati State and Kenton County Schools was recently announced to support students interested in aviation. Fifteen Kenton County students are learning about airplane mechanics and how to fly unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, in the brand-new partnership. Students will leave with 30 plus [college credit] hours and a pathway that is in high demand. The program is currently free to students and will likely become more competitive as the field of aviation mechanics continues to be in high demand.

-Brighton Center, along with Family Nurturing Center, Chapin Hall of the University of Chicago, and DCBS have been selected as a Family Support through Primary Prevention (FSPP) Demonstration Site through funding from the Department of Health and Human Services – Administration of Children and Families. Their project, Building Community Well-Being Among Families, will be one of six throughout the country.

-Bus to Business<sup>®</sup> is a statewide initiative from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce focused on connecting students with employers and bringing classrooms to careers. The goal of the program is to show students what career pathways are in their own communities. Through this program, students are given the opportunity to tour businesses, complete hands-on work-based learning activities, and speak directly with employers and industry leaders about career pathways available in their organizations. Students learn about what careers are in demand in Kentucky and what it takes to attain them. If your school or company would like to participate in/provide a Bus to Business experience, please contact Amanda Johannemann.

#### -YouScience Regional Student Pipeline Data Report

Thanks to funding from OneNKY Alliance via Truist Foundation, as well as INTERalliance (IT employer collaborative), Supply Chain OKI (supply chain/logistics employer collaborative) and The Health Collaborative (healthcare employer collaborative), College & Career Readiness partners have leveraged YouScience, an innovative aptitude and career exploration and certification platform, to align

and connect student talent to our region's workforce pipeline. YouScience Discovery uses online brain games to match what students do well (aptitudes) and what they like to do (interests) with in-demand careers for which they have a competitive advantage. Students get personalized feedback about how their abilities can be utilized in schools, work, and daily lives. This type of self-awareness and edification can have a profound impact on students' present choices and the futures they envision for themselves.

Through regional student data reports compiled by YouScience - schools will be able to better identify talents of this region's future leaders and use this data to assist students in connecting to work-based learning opportunities in specific industries aligned with their aptitudes and interests. Employers and workforce partners will be able to utilize this data to gain a better understanding of the current student pipeline we have across Northern Kentucky schools and evaluate gaps and opportunities to strengthen outreach and work-based learning opportunities needed.

-The Dr. Randolph Program has been kicked off as an opportunity to inspire African American students in Northern Kentucky, in the tradition of Dr. James E. Randolph, to become professionals in medical, healthcare, and scientific settings through academic enrichment, leadership development, civic engagement, and mentoring. Day in the Life videos are now available as resources to NKY schools/students and can be found on MyCareerE3.

-GROW NKY College & Career Readiness partners joined forces with ParentCamp NKY to host ParentCamp NKY-College & Career Edition on Wednesday, September 29th. Over 200 parents registered to join and hear from facilitators on topics ranging Dual Credit and College Pathways - to Financial Aid/Scholarship Hunting and How to Advocate for your Child. The event was well received, and another College & Career Edition event is scheduled to take place in January 2022.