BB2C Community and Business Advisory Council Meeting Notes, Sept. 10, 2020

Interactive Questions and Feedback using Padlet format:

Question #1: Consider the data provided about school plans for fall and the response from businesses about job shadowing and internships. What are your thoughts on this information?
- I think that there's not much schools can do because of Covid.
    - I think that was true early on, but now people have started to adapt.
- I have found that many of the health related businesses are a no go as of now. I have had many great conversations but Covid is restricting many things !!
- We have 1 student intern at present. It will be on a case by case scenario
- I think businesses are wanting to help with internships but COVID is probably preventing some of them.
- I think it is great that many schools are still promoting these opportunities.
- People seem to be getting comfortable using technology to connect so that should help us keep our students engaged with career exploration virtually
- Locally owned businesses seem to be more flexible in permitting shadowing/internship as opposed to more regionally or nationally owned businesses which often must adhere to more strict COVID rules. Thank you to the local entrepreneurs who are still welcoming our students.
- It's surprising so many businesses aren't wanting to participate at this time
    - Actually, some businesses are very interested, they are not sure how to actually help so they may need further information.
- I'm happy to know that several businesses are willing to still have interns and job shadow.
- It appears that it will be more difficult to arrange job shadowing, with fewer businesses participating. But most seem willing to adapt to virtual experiences and hopefully there will be enough opportunities for interested students
- I'm surprised there aren't more schools going back 5 days in person.
- I feel it is very possible to continue BB2C work with students and schools, despite the current situation. If students, schools, businesses are willing that is super!

Question #2: What keeps you engaged in the work of supporting career experiences for our students? Or, what needs to happen to keep you engaged?
- This work is most important in the time that we are in. We may need to rethink how we provide those experiences. Students are still graduating and still have futures ahead of them.

- The success stories we have heard tonight. If we can help one student make a good decision on his or her career path that will impact their future that is success.
- I really love seeing students excited about finding what they love and are interested in. It's very easy to read whether or not they are enjoying what they have been provided and when you find that perfect fit, well ...it's just awesome!
- Happy to provide as many opportunities to students as possible. As a parent, I see a tremendous value in aiding a student as my career choice is different than my children's. As a business, these students are our future workforce and my investment in them as well as others providing opportunities is what keeps me engaged. AND seeing the excitement from the students when they talk about their experience.
- Working with students to help them set goals and become successful is what we do at OhioMeansJobs so we are very engaged in doing this.
- Anytime a young person finds their passion and I can help them pursue it; that keeps me engaged
- Light bulb moments happen very often in the "real world" that you don't quite see as often in the classroom and maybe even less now that we are limited to individual and non-sharing activities!
- When we put our Career Readiness Camp and I a saw the students go through the whole process and do a fantastic job on their virtual job shadow and get great information from the businesses or person, that's what keeps me engaged. That the system does work, sometimes the medium changes.
- As a teacher, seeing my students excited about different careers keeps me motivated.   I like to challenge myself each year to help students at least narrow down their interests.
- I recognize the importance of providing the experience and would like to be more engaged
- Ability to connect virtually. This is a great time for an investment in custom virtual reality interactive video creation of local careers! Except budgets are flat until the future of COVID is known.
- I am a parent of students in Frontier District and WSCC. In addition part of my job is recruiting and hiring for my company. Improving our candidate pool and creating more qualified candidates will create more career opportunities for our youth without them having to leave the area.
- The great value for students in their quest to find what career best suits them is what keeps me engaged.
- I enjoy helping students learn about careers they might not have considered
- I feel motivated to be engaged when students and business members share their experiences and successes.

Question #3: What ways are you connecting students/young adults to career experiences or providing them since COVID started?
- I did a virtual job shadowing session with a student at Hunter's request.

- I am utilizing the school liaisons as much as I can to get word out there that BB2C is still placing students.
- We are calling, texting, meeting some in person in our office, and doing virtual meetings with them.
- Allowing them to see that this shouldn't stop them from pursuing what they love.
- We explore different careers on the internet and use OMJ Website
- BB2C Liason for FFHS is also our Internship Coordinator :)
- OOGEEP is doing virtual career presentations for classrooms and groups. We did not do virtual before all of this.
- I have not, but willing to.
- Nothing much has changed for us. We practice all of the safety precautions we can but we continue living and working.
- I have had limited engagement, and hope to expand my connection this year

Question #4: What do you think are the pros and cons of virtual career experiences?
- Pro- Anywhere anytime. Con- Many do not have the tech.
- I will always think that doing career experiences in person is better, but we have to work with what we got. We can't just wait for things to go back to normal because these students are needing our services and these experiences now. Pros are that students can meet with someone from their home and get a taste of that career. Cons are that they may miss some of the real world experiences.
- Pros are that the kids know their way around electronics....major con....not being able to keep their attention
- A good pro is that you can have the experience from anywhere
    - I agree. I was going to say that it allows some experiences that you may not be able to have. For example, in our area, a student could do a virtual experience with someone far away.
- I feel that the pros would be that now many companies do virtual interviews, so them experiencing any virtual can help prepare them for that. The cons would be that I don't think anything can replace the positive impact of face to face interaction.
- The creativity involved in all things being redesigned is incredible! It also creates a vast amount of problem solving!
- Anything that requires physical interaction can not be achieved virtually. The pros are one really awesome teacher can engage students all over the world.
- Hands-on is preferable, but virtual allows for distance interaction and more flexible scheduling
- Con would be not getting the hands on interaction
    - It also seems harder to actually "shadow" someone when their work may not be related to sitting in front of a screen.

- This generation has grown up with Technology. We may learn from them new ways to interact.
    - Great point. We are being forced to think and do things differently outside of our comfort zone.
    - Yes, the digital immigrants were thrown in the deep end of technology when COVID hit:)
- Like any interaction and job, so much is learned from first hand, in person experience.
- Personal relationships may not be as strong or as open in virtual career experiences. We miss nonverbal communications on the phone or virtually.
- Allows students to figure out if they actually like what they think they do
- Virtual Experiences allows students to still participate in career exploration. Pros- Can allow students to have more personalized experiences. Cons - lack of face to face interactions which may be needed at times.
- Virtual will become the norm and should be accepted. I think it will allow students and businesses to be more available due to the convenience and flexibility of online tools like zoom
    - It will certainly be more integrated into our world moving forward.
- Virtual is a new way of working
    - And this will be a lasting impact on the world of work that students need to learn to navigate.

Question #5: If career experiences have to be virtual, do you think the necessary technology is available to make this happen?
- I am very impressed with how fast we have all caught on to the technology to make this a possibility and I think it will only get better.
- Yes...there are students that do not have the means to participate virtually and they should not be left out because of their technological restrictions.
    - Agreed, some businesses are willing to donate old computers.
- Yes. Fortunately in my position most of my work is done on a computer anyway, so with a decent app we can have face to face conversation with screen sharing so I can demonstrate the kind of work I do.
- I feel that we are getting better at having the necessary technology
- I believe most students have access to Zoom, facetime or other tools that could be used
- I do believe students will have the technology they need to attend virtual tours and other virtual meetings. I wonder if businesses and manufacturing companies will have the technology to make it happen. I also wonder if some businesses and manufacturing companies will permit videos to be used of their operations
- Technology - yes; Broadband, hotspots, WiFi, connections in general are very spotty, costly, unavailable still to many especially in our rural areas

- NO. Not at economical cost. However some schools are sending small machines and 3D printers home with students
- I assume it is, but I also know that rural areas have less reliable connections
- There are many tools and resources to make it exciting. It's a learning experience for all of us.
- Yes, I believe the necessary technology is available.
- OOGEEP has awesome career info and videos to help virtually. www.oogeep.org. Other companies may do a little more to engage now.
  - Videos do seem to be a great way to engage students and get information to them. Many colleges are only doing videos as part of their admissions process so the workforce can be very similar.
- In Marietta District, yes we have the appropriate and capable technologies to provide and have virtual career experiences

Question #6: Recently the Washington County Portrait of a Graduate work identified communication, critical thinking, and adaptability as the top 3 competencies students should possess upon graduation. Can these be improved upon virtually? If so, do you have any thoughts about how it can be done?

- I think we'll need to keep reminding students that communication might be virtual, but it still needs to be professional. It's easy to slip into text-speak or communicate in a more casual fashion.
- Adaptability and resiliency have been big issues these past 6 months! Communication has just taken on new avenues. The big issue is helping younger folks keep it professional.
- By schools implementing Problem based learning and STEM content
- I don't think that can be achieved only virtually, I do believe it would need to be a combination of both.
- But virtual experience could certainly encompass most of the necessary skills
- I would be available via Zoom or online to speak to classes or individual students regarding career options, how to complete resumes, communication and networking techniques. It would be very interactive for students.
- The three competencies can be developed through virtual experiences. We have to work harder at communication, but adaptability and critical thinking are skills the technology is forcing some of us to use even more.