Not your typical career fair

Auglaize and Mercer County Educational Service Centers
and
Auglaize Mercer Business Education Alliance
What?

- Talent Connection Forum
- 2 DAY EVENT FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS
- THE CONVERSATIONS
- THE CONNECTIONS
Comments from educators...

“Many students are not aware of what kinds of things our companies are doing here locally. I also love to see our county schools and students intermingled with each other!”
“I have been to 28 ‘career fairs’ in the past several years and I haven’t gotten one thing for my time. Not one employee in 28 events!”

–Sean Dorsten,
President of H.A. Dorsten Construction, Minster, Ohio
Other Reasons for Creation:

● Businesses are seeing no benefit from typical career fairs
● Losing local talent to other job markets
● Create an awareness of local opportunities and link unique careers to local opportunities
● Urgency from business side
● Prepared for success component on grade cards
Prepared for success

How well do schools or districts prepare students for college or careers?

Why is this important?

- Graduation is not enough.
- These indicators measure preparedness for all educational tracks.
- All districts and community schools must provide and promote ways for high schools to provide college credit.
Our goals

- Students become more informed about career interest and share what is available locally
- Establish relationships between local professionals and future employees
- Establish mentorship/co-op/job shadowing opportunities for students and businesses
- Students securing part-time or full-time employment
How?

Establish Local partnerships

Consider who in your community can connect you with the “right” businesses and the “right” people?
Our Partnerships

- Auglaize Mercer Educational Business (AMBE) Alliance
- Economic/Workforce developers
- Hometown Opportunity
How did we pull it all together

- **Student Interest Survey**
  - Hometown Opportunity

- **Data used to secure participating businesses**
  - Identify specific areas
  - Keep small groups
  - Communicate expectations - This is not a presentation. This is a round table.
Other Logistical concerns

- Scheduling the schools
- Session assignments for students
- Room assignments for each session
- Signage
Student Preparedness

- Student Information Packets
  - Agenda
  - Map
  - Dress recommendations
  - Name tags
  - Conversation Points
- Guidance counselors involvement
Media Coverage
Outcomes

- Student employment
- Job shadowing
- Businesses connecting with businesses
- Development of authentic connections between schools and businesses
Future Planning...