

A business advisory council helps provide support for career and technical education instruction, activities, and services. In accordance with the requirements of state law, the business advisory council can serve a single board of education or multiple boards of education. Advisory Councils assist boards by identifying economic and workforce development trends related to the training and educational needs of the community and advocating for strong, local career and technical education programs, including career pathway development that provides work-based learning opportunities for students and prepares students for post-secondary educational certifications and credentialing for high-demand careers.

**A. COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL**

The business advisory council will have at least nine members, including the superintendent or designee, the career and technical education program director, the president of the local community college or designee, and a principal assigned by the superintendent. The career and technical education program director will be a nonvoting member on the council and will serve as secretary to the council. The majority of members on the council will be business, industry, and workforce and economic development stakeholders, and community members, parents of students enrolled in career and technical education courses; and/or a representative that supports work-based learning.

When joining with other boards of education, each local board of education shall be responsible for its educational representatives who will serve three-year terms. Each board will vote on its representatives during a public meeting so that it will be noted in a public record.

**B. APPOINTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES**

**Initial and Subsequent Appointment of Business and Industry Representatives**

The board will make the initial appointments of business and industry representatives for terms beginning January 1, 2018. Boards will update the members' terms based on the recommendations of the career and technical education director and the council chair. Boards utilizing local workforce boards will adhere to the workforce board's membership rotation.

When appointing new members, the board should choose candidates who are concerned with the best interests of the students and the local economy and who are willing to devote the time and effort required of council membership. Ideal candidates will have a particular knowledge or expertise or a unique perspective relevant to economic and workforce development trends related to the training and educational needs of the community. Candidates also should be advocates for strong, local career and technical education programs. Preference will be given to candidates who reside within the school administrative unit. Membership on the council must reasonably reflect the education, business, and community makeup of the school administrative unit.

**C. OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL**

The business advisory council will operate in accordance with G.S. 115C-170. The superintendent shall provide the council with a meeting space if needed and shall assign necessary administrative staff to assist the council. The career and technical education director shall report back to the board annually on recommendations for the school system's career and technical education instruction, activities, and services. Meetings of the council are subject to the requirements of the open meetings law in Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes and will operate under established bylaws.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47(30), -55, -170; 143 art. 33C

Cross References: Compliance with the Open Meetings Law (policy 2320)

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