



PICKAWAY COUNTY – THE CROSSROADS FOR BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

### **Educators & employers finding common ground**

Circleville, Ohio- Educators and employers assembled again in December to further discuss how to best prepare and align the Pickaway County workforce with local employment opportunities. Together P3, Pickaway H.E.L.P.S (Higher Education Learning Partners for Students) and the Pickaway County Chamber of Commerce hosted the second “Workforce Connections Breakfast”.

The first Connections Breakfast, held in September, provided K-12 educators an opportunity to share new career readiness initiatives with local employers. In turn, employers shared some challenges they were experiencing with employee preparedness and availability. December’s meeting was focused more on postsecondary training options and other local and state government resources that are available now to assist employers with their labor needs.

“Working to provide equal opportunities for our students, strengthening the competitiveness of our employers, and improving the economic stability of our community are reasons that we need to continue to have dialogue between the schools and employers,” says Christy Mills, Director of Pickaway H.E.L.P.S.

The Workforce Connections meetings were intended to help bridge the communication gap between employers and educators. A number of new ideas and requests for assistance have now emerged through the newly formed relationships between these groups. P3 will be working with our local workforce planning group to identify specific initiatives for the coming year as we work to provide a competitive environment for current and prospective new employers.