



Bluff Country Collaborative:

A Multi-Stakeholder Initiative in Southeast Minnesota

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Introductions: Presenters/Around the Room

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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. What is the Bluff Country Collaborative?
3. Strategies
4. Metrics
5. Challenges
6. Next Steps
7. Q & A



Bluff Country Collaborative (BCC)

The BCC is a collaborative effort focused on connecting business, education, local government, and organizations who are committed to the economic sustainability of the region.

The vision of the Bluff Country Collaborative is to ensure the economic vitality of rural communities in Houston and Fillmore counties by integrating schools, employers, local government, and community resources in an effort to provide meaningful, hands-on experience to the next generation of workers

Bluff Country Collaborative

Business and Industry

Caledonia Haulers
Kwik Trip
Fastenal
Flex Craft
Gundersen Health
Harmony Enterprises
Local #6
Mathy Construction
Mayo Clinic
McDonald's
Midwest Machinery
MiEnergy
Miners Underground
Wieser Bros. Construction
etc.



K-12

Caledonia
Houston
La Crescent-Hokah
Lewiston-Altura
Mabel-Canton
Rushford-Peterson
Spring Grove

Post-Secondary

MN State College Southeast

Service Cooperative

Southeast Service Cooperative
(Rochester, MN)

Workforce Development

Fillmore County EDA
Houston County ED
Workforce Development, Inc.
(Rochester, MN)

Turn and Talk #1

With a partner or small group, review what CTE looks like in your context. What is already in place? Where could you grow? What are some success? Some challenges?



BCC Strategies

Senior Day

- CTE Career Exploration Day
- Industry Tours
- Union Reps Panel
- Dream Job Event
- Grade 8 Career Exploration Day
- Career Day
- Guest speakers
- Mock Interviews
- Job Shadows
- Career Fair
- Youth Skills Training Program/CAN
- 1:1 Student Support
- CTE Instructor Support

BCC Structure

Leadership Team

- School Principals + Workforce Development + SSC + Perkins
- Strategies, Continuous Improvement
- Every other month 2.5 hour meeting plus Navigator contact

Partnership Team

- Workforce Development + SSC + Perkins
- Business/Industry Engagement
- Monthly 1 hour meeting and as needed

Fiscal Team

- Workforce Development + SSC + Perkins + (Admin. Reps?)
- Funding for Youth Workforce Navigator position
- Monthly 1 hour meeting and as needed

BCC Metrics

Student Feedback

School Feedback

Business/Industry Feedback

BCC Challenges

Turn-over/On-Boarding

Identifying Lanes

Trust

Funding

Meetings

Capacity

Expansion

Turn and Talk #2

What are some strengths and challenges with your existing partnerships and collaborative efforts?



BCC Next Steps

1. Develop Fiscal Team.
2. Secure sustainable and consistent funding.
 - Southeast Service Cooperative Grants
 - Regional/Local Grants
 - Perkins
 - Youth Skills Training Grant
 - Regional/Local Business Donations[Career Z Challenge Grant]
3. Identify lanes.
4. Consider expansion efforts.

Q & A

<http://bluffcountrycollaborative.com>

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