

SIX DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL COMPACT...History • 1969-2025



When the Six District Educational Compact was first proposed in 1969, Ohio Department of Education officials in Columbus called it pure folly. They said it would never work. The whole idea that six superintendents and six Boards of Education could agree to pool their resources, yet maintain their individual identities, was absurd.

This Compact, comprised of Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson, Kent, Stow-Munroe Falls, Tallmadge City Schools and Woodridge Local Schools, has proven the State Department of Education wrong.

Looking back, things were vastly different in the world of education. The median starting pay for a teacher with a bachelor's degree was \$6,000. State support for schools was about 28 percent of the total budget. And the average cost per pupil was \$679.

An ad in Ohio Schools magazine invited teachers to spend the Christmas of 1969 in Hawaii. The complete cost, including round-trip airfare, 10 days in Honolulu, followed by three nights in Hollywood, a New Year's gala, the Rose Bowl Parade and a trip to Disneyland, was \$398!

Meanwhile, there was turmoil in the schools. This was the age of drugs, bomb scares, flag burnings, black arm bands, long hair and short skirts. Voters said "no" to 72 percent of the new school tax issues – the most disastrous defeat in history.

Some things have remained remarkably the same, however. In 1969, the new U.S. Commission of Education called for an end to the general education curriculum, and made vocational education one of the top priorities. In Ohio, school officials were scrambling to meet new state mandates requiring every school district to provide access to vocational training for its high school students.

Districts were given three options in meeting the state requirements: establish a joint vocational school, build vocational programs into a comprehensive high school, or contract with a larger district for vocational services. None of these options appealed to the superintendents of six small districts in Portage and Summit Counties. The state

law included a provision for "other arrangements that could be examples of innovative approaches." Superintendents from Cuyahoga Falls, Kent, Hudson, Stow-Munroe Falls, Tallmadge and Woodridge decided to follow that avenue. After months of planning, they asked the state department to approve the idea of a six-district consortium to provide vocational services. Everyone at the state level opposed it except one – the man at the top, Dr. Martin Essex, who served as state superintendent of schools from 1966 to 1977. He approved the plan, calling it an "exemplary program," which could serve as a model for similar efforts in Ohio. And he was right!

Dr. Franklin Walter followed as state superintendent and supported the growth of the Compact during his years of service from 1977 to 1991.

In 1970, when the six superintendents signed a contract to establish and jointly fund the Six District Educational Compact, Dr. Robert Stanton, then Superintendent of Kent City Schools, was chosen as the first chairman of the Compact. He was followed by Dr. Harold Wilson, who was Superintendent of the Cuyahoga Falls City Schools at the time.

Through the years, the Compact has expanded beyond its original purpose of providing career and technical education. Today, the list of programs and services offered by the Compact includes a wide range of Career-Technical Education programs, shared business services including professional development for support staff, special education, summer school, the Summa Compact Partnership, Pathway Project; targeted programs such as COMPACT COMPASS: FOUR E's INITIATIVE, two Saturday Family Workshops for Substance Abuse and Effective Strategies for Managing Anger-Conflict-Emotion (MACE), "Unplugged Adventures," Makers of Tomorrow Summer Camp, the Reading & Writing Festival, A.C.E. (Aeronautics Careers Experience) summer camp and the Diane Burbick Conference on Math and Science for Middle School Girls.

Clearly, the regionalized approach taken by the Six District Educational Compact has defied the odds. Not only was this the first of its kind, but 54 years later, it remains the best!



Cuyahoga Falls•Hudson•Kent•Stow-Munroe Falls•Tallmadge•Woodridge

1969

- Six superintendents propose a regionalized approach for meeting new vocational mandates. State vocational education officials doubt it will work, but State Superintendent Martin Essex grants approval, calling it an “exemplary idea” which might serve as a model for other districts.

1970

- Agreement sign by Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson, Kent, Stow, Tallmadge and Woodridge.
- Administrative intern from Kent State University hired as coordinator.
- Dr. Robert Stanton, Kent superintendent, chosen to be the first chairman.

1972

- Dr. Harold Wilson, superintendent of Cuyahoga Falls City Schools, becomes second Compact chairman, a position he held for several years.

1975

Eldon Reiboldt hired as Compact’s first full-time executive director.

1975 to 1985

- Compact services expanded to include special education, a career assessment center, graduate follow-up studies, summer school and audio-visual repair.

1985

- Mary Jane Stanchina hired as the Compact’s new executive director.

1985 to 1995

- Compact services and programs expanded to include special education/vocational services, reading and math intervention, career and professional development, computer repair services, targeted programs such as GRADS, OPTION 4, JOGS and GED testing, marketing and communications services, proficiency test preparation programs, adult education and shared business services. During this decade, career programs were revised to address changes in the job market. The first Career Passports were issued to 107 eligible students in June, 1995.
- The first Reading and Writing Festival was held during the 1987-1988 school year.
- The first Leadership Conference for Middle School Students was held.

1995

- Celebration of the Compact’s 25th Anniversary.
- Saturday Family Workshop added to programs offered by C.A.R.E., group charged with substance abuse intervention/prevention efforts.

1996

- The Manufacturing and Pre-Engineering Academy, the Compact's first Tech Prep initiative, welcomed its first class. Located at Roosevelt and Stow-Munroe Falls high schools, students study four technology areas – computer aided design, electronics, polymers and manufacturing - The Academy prepares students for college study leading to a two- or four-year degree at one of the partner schools or a school of their choice.
- Urban Forestry/Landscape Horticulture Career Program opened at Roosevelt High School.
- A collaborative partnership formed between Summa Health System and the Six District Educational Compact. The Partnership provides innovative, collaborative and non-traditional learning opportunities for students, parents, teachers, counselors and administrators from the Compact schools and a broad base of personnel from Summa. Summa brings Akron City Hospital, St. Thomas Hospital and an affiliation with Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine to the joint venture.

1997

- Pathway Project, an initiative funded by special State Department grants, began exploring Career Pathway options and other changes initiatives for Compact high schools.
- The first Diane Burbick Conference on Math and Science for Middle School girls was held.
- The Six District Educational Compact was restructured as a Regional Council of Governments.

2000

- The SUMMA Compact Partnership received the STAR Partnership Award of \$5,000 from the Summit Education Initiative.
- The Executive Committee approved the formation of a Task Force on Information Technologies and a Task Force on Aviation and Flight. These initiatives will address high performance pathway opportunities.

2001

- Cisco Networking, a new College Tech Prep program, opened at Cuyahoga Falls High School. A new Compact website, www.sixdistrict.com was unveiled as part of the overall marketing plan.

2002

- The first ACE, Aviation Career Experience, was held in cooperation with the Division of Aeronautics, School of Technology at Kent State University.

2003

- Collision Repair and Auto Refinishing, the Compact's newest Career Program, opens in a state-of-the-art facility at an offsite location in downtown Cuyahoga Falls. A redesigned Career Program, CAD-CAM gives students the opportunity to combine computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing with individual career pathway interests like architecture, art and design or industrial systems, as part of a new partnership with Kent State University. Athletic Health Care and Fitness joins the list of Compact College Tech Prep Initiatives, offering bachelor's degree pathways at The University of Akron and Kent State University.

2004

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- The 2003-04 Career-Technical Performance Profile of the Six District Educational Compact, which includes a “snapshot” of demographics, performance and data on Ohio workforce development students in grades 9 through 12, reports that over 71 percent of all workforce development students continued their education after high school. Approximately 84 percent of 2003-04 Compact completers pursued educational or career goals in an area related to their career-focused field of study in high school. Completers had a 99.7 percent, or nearly perfect passage rate, on the Ohio Proficiency Test and a 99.1 graduation rate.
 - Banking and Financial Services, a new Career Program offered at Cuyahoga Falls High School, gives students classroom instruction and mentoring opportunities with banking and financial professionals, as well as internship experiences in the financial services marketplace.
 - Career Paths for the Teaching Profession is a new pathway designed to attract students to the teaching profession. Located at Roosevelt High School, students will take part in field-based experiences and take academic coursework to prepare them for a bachelor’s degree program. Kent State University, Ashland University and The University of Akron are participants in the Compact Initiative.
 - A Health Foundations course at Roosevelt High School provides students with an overview of the health care industry, as well as with basic health competencies. This course is the first offering in the Health Science and Technology Pathway.
 - A two-year, Safe and Supportive Schools K-12 state grant totaling \$140,000 was awarded to the Compact to promote positive social and character development while helping reduce at-risk behaviors.

2005

- A+ Certification and Networking replaces the curriculum in Cisco Networking, a College Tech Prep Initiative located at Cuyahoga Falls High School. The new curriculum includes installation and use of application software and how to design and troubleshoot a local area network. Students are prepared to earn A+ and Net+ Certification.

2006

- As part of a 5-Year Career Technical Educational Plan, the Compact assembled a group of business, industry and educational partners to take part in a “Futuring” panel. Group members gave their insights about the workforce and economic needs of Northeast Ohio, as well as possible Career Programs to address those needs.
- Fenn College of Engineering at Cleveland State University enters into a formalized partnership with the Manufacturing and Pre-Engineering Academy, a College Tech Prep Initiative.
- Project SEARCH, a new and exciting community-based transition program for high school students with disabilities, opens in partnership with Summa Health System. Trainees will spend nine months at Akron City Hospital rotating through three work sites and focusing on employability skills. After learning skills in the hospital environment, students may be able to apply for full-time jobs with benefits at Summa.
- Nursery School/Daycare/Educational Aide opens at Tallmadge, the first time Tallmadge serves as a receiving district for a Career Program. Auto Technology Level 1 re-opens at Cuyahoga Falls.

2007

- A new DVD of Compact programs was available for interested students and parents at orientation programs and other marketing opportunities.
- As part of the Compact Plan for the Future, planning work continued, specifically for offerings in the Arts and Communication Field.
- An updated and redesigned Compact website contains numerous linkages to other websites.
- A review of the new technical content standards occurred, along with Professional Development focusing on integration of academic content standards.
- Two new Workforce programs, Preschool/Daycare/Educational Aide and Project SEARCH, opened.

2008

- A \$30,000 Ohio Department of Education grant supports program accreditation and student credentialing for Auto Technology, Collision Repair and Auto Refinishing and A+ Certification and Networking.
- Course of Study review completed for 11 Career-funded programs. Each one is reflective of academic and technical standards. Instructors did all the work online by downloading material from the Compact website.
- Professional Development activities for CBI, Workforce and Family & Consumer Sciences teachers focused on new Perkins IV legislation and its implications for Compact Career and Technical Education programming. Both the director and the associate director of the Ohio Department of Education Department of Career and Technical Education presented information at the fall and spring meetings of Compact teachers.
- As part of the Compact Plan for the Future, planning work continued, specifically for offerings in the Arts and Communication Career Field and Transportation Career Field. Planning sessions occurred with potential collaborators.
- New Culinary Arts and Catering Career Program instructor is also a Compact Career Program completer. Both instructors are graduates of the Culinary Institute of America.
- Received \$10,000 from the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundations for the Arts and Communication Career Field.

2009

- The new Aviation Careers Academy College Tech Prep Initiative was launched at Stow-Munroe Falls High School and Van Deusen Hall on the Kent State University campus, as well as at the Kent State University airport. Program content includes aircraft design, air traffic control and airport management, as well as an introduction to flight training. The Aviation Careers Academy includes a linkage to KSU's College of Technology.
- The new Theater Arts Career Academy College Tech Prep Initiative welcomed its first class at Tallmadge High School. Students will study theater art genres in the context of acting/directing, design/technology, arts administration and the history, literature and criticism of drama. The Theater Arts Career Academy includes a linkage to The University of Akron.
- As part of the Compact Plan for the Future, opportunities were designed and Programs of Study submitted to the Office of Career- Technical Education for Urban Forestry/Landscape Horticulture with Cuyahoga Community College, Aviation Careers Academy with Kent State University, Theater Arts Career Academy with The University of Akron, and Preschool/Daycare/Educational Aide with The University of Akron.

2009 continued

- Auto Technologies in Hudson received NATEF certification after participating in a rigorous auditing process.
- Compact ABLE entered into a collaborative agreement with Project L.E.A.R.N. of Akron in order to offer ESOL and ABLE programs at current Compact sites after the state funding situation changed. The GED host site was changed.
- Professional Development for Workforce Development teachers focused on uses of technology for instructional purposes, as well as updating staff with the latest information from the Office for Exceptional Children.
- Family & Consumer Sciences teachers completed new courses of study for their funded courses.
- As part of the Compact Plan for the Future, planning work continued, specifically for offerings in the Media Arts Pathway, Interactive Media/Visual Imaging Pathway and Information Systems and Support Pathway for Geographic Information Specialization. Planning sessions occurred with potential collaborators.

2010

Seven Career Programs were converted to College Tech Prep Initiatives with articulation linkages to area colleges and universities. They include:

- Automotive Technologies—Cuyahoga Community College
- Business Management—The University of Akron
- Cosmetology—The University of Akron
- Culinary Arts and Catering—The University of Akron
- Interactive Media/Visual Imaging—Cuyahoga Community College
- Marketing—The University of Akron
- Preschool/Daycare/Educational Aide—The University of Akron

- The Compact's newly designed website www.sixdistrict.com now features a short video, a focus on Compact students' successes and an easy-to-find list of all Career Programs and College Tech Prep Initiatives. Students can download applications and find information about College Tech Prep articulation agreements with area colleges.

- Project SEARCH, the Compact's site-based transition program for high school students at Summa, received a \$20,000 grant from the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation.

- Woodridge's Collision Repair and Automotive Refinishing and Hudson's Auto Technologies received the prestigious NATEF certification.

- Hudson's Auto Specialization program was featured on the NBC Nightly News "Making A Difference" segment for its involvement in Hudson Rotary's bicycle refurbishing project.

- Thanks to the organization efforts of Stow-Munroe Falls Intervention Specialists Peggy Peters and Sandra Kehn, as well as Compact Career/Special Education Coordinator Amy McDougal, students and family members attended a Transition Fair. Information was available on post-secondary education and workforce development and the services provided by community agencies.

- Workforce development teachers learned about uses of SmartBoards, FLIP video /digital cameras, ELMO document cameras, Moodle and Google.docs software and Netbook computers at Professional Development sessions held during the year at Western Reserve Public Media. Teachers submitted mini grant applications, which outlined who would benefit from the technology and how it would be used in order to receive appropriate technology for their classrooms.

2010 continued

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- Ohio Representative Stephen Dyer toured Compact College Tech Prep Initiatives and Career Programs at Tallmadge and Roosevelt High Schools. He also met with superintendents and treasurers to update them on legislative actions to support Career Technical Education in Ohio.
 - Stow-Munroe Falls counselor Wendy Paul and Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Jill Merz were recognized for obtaining National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Status.
 - Family and Consumer Sciences teachers implemented the Understanding by Design concepts in work with the Foods and Nutrition curriculum.
 - The Compact assisted with planning of a “Forum on Improving Mental Health Through School-Family Community Partnerships in Suburban and Rural School Districts” with the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation.
 - Compass Awards recognized the service and dedication of community and business partners. Ron Burbick and the Burbick Foundation were acknowledged for support of the Diane Burbick Math and Science Conference for Middle School Girls, as well as the Diane Burbick Summer Experience. Davey Tree Expert Company was honored for its work with the Urban Forestry/Landscape Horticulture College Tech Prep Initiative. Dr. Lory Lewis was recognized for partnering with the Athletic Health Care and Fitness College Tech Prep Initiative to provide mentorship opportunities for students. Mr. Joseph O’Sickey established Joseph and Algesa O’Sickey Sketchbook Development Project for art students in the Six District Educational Compact high schools.

2011

Seven Career Programs were converted to College Tech Prep Initiatives with articulation linkages to area colleges and universities. They include:

- Banking/Financial Services—University of Akron, Summit College
- Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing—University of Akron, Summit College
- Collision Repair and Auto Refinishing—Stark State College of Technology
- Construction Technologies—University of Akron, Summit College
- Electronics Technology—University of Akron, Summit College
- Teaching Professions—University of Akron
- Wood Products Technologies & Cabinet Making, Summit College

- Carol Sayre is the new coordinator for Project SEARCH, the Compact’s site-based transition program for high school students at Summa Health System.

- The second annual Transition Fair was held at Stow-Munroe Falls High School. It was organized by Stow-Munroe Falls Intervention Specialists Peggy Peters and Sandra Kehn, as well as Compact Career/Special Education Coordinator Amy McDougal. Students and family members received information about post-secondary education and workforce development, as well as services provided by community agencies.

- Compact Workforce Development teachers explored the theme of “Educators Creating an Inclusive, Dynamic Career Technical Education Environment that Meets the Needs of Each Student” during three Professional Development sessions. Topics ranged from Response to Intervention (RTI) framework to uses of technology for instructional purposes. Directors from area College Tech Prep Consortia presented highlights of their programs at the sessions held at Western Reserve Public Media.

2011 -2012

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- The application process for Compact College Tech Prep Initiatives and Career Programs transitioned to an online system.
 - The Compact scored very high in the State Performance Measures report, part of the Ohio Perkins Five-Year State Plan for Career-Technical Education from the Ohio Department of Education. Compact CTE students had a 99.73 percent graduation rate and scored 97.65 percent in reading/language arts and percent in math academic attainment.
 - Along with the Tallmadge City Schools, the Compact supported the “Making Math and Science Fun” workshop for teachers in grades kindergarten through sixth. The workshop focused on STEM literacy.
 - Production worksites for Lunchology were implemented at Stow-Munroe Falls and Cuyahoga Falls high schools and Tallmadge Middle School. This partnership allows special needs students to gain work experience in order to transition to work life.
 - The Joseph and Algesa O’Sickey Sketchbook Perception Development Program was initiated for art students in the Compact thanks to the generosity of area artist Joseph O’Sickey.
 - The Compact participated in the College and Career Readiness Grant along with The University of Akron.

2012-2013

- Four Compact representatives provided input to Summit Workforce Solutions – sector committees - as part of an effort to ensure alignment between the educational and employer communities.
- A new Biomedical Engineering and Technology Academy at Woodridge High School opened in August. As part of the Compact’s newest initiative, a new lab was renovated and new science and technology equipment was purchased. The Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital Fund of the Summa Foundation donated a \$150,000 grant to support the Academy. The Woodridge Foundation has conducted a fundraising campaign and raised \$190,000.
- As part of a celebration of Project SEARCH, seven completers who are now working at Summa joined current students and Summa employees at a special luncheon.
- A free awareness program called “Hidden in Plain Sight” was presented at Woodridge High School for parents to alert them to signs teens could be involved in risky and perhaps illegal substances. The program was presented by the Six District Educational Compact and Woodridge Local Schools.
- A three-day training hands-on training session called “It’s My Turn” was offered for a group of eighth grade students from Compact Middle Schools. The Compact Special Education Committee facilitated the event.
- Compact professional development sessions for Workforce development and Family and Consumer Sciences teachers addressed strategies to develop a Personal and Professional Learning Plan and how to use it as a repository of evidence for the upcoming teacher evaluation system.
- Discussions of various groups focused on the preparation of Student Learning Objectives (SLO) for career-technical education.
- Dr. Susan Norris Huss, Associate Professor in the Mental Health Careers Technologies and School Counseling Program at Bowling Green State University, worked with the Compact school counselors and administrators about “Ethical Issues Surrounding Social Media” in April 2013
- The Reading and Writing Festival marked a 25 year celebration.

2012-2013 continued

- Exploratory investigation occurred about a new college tech initiative in the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Career Field.
- Twelve Roosevelt instructors were the recipients of nearly \$13,000 in grants from the newly formed East Central Ohio College Tech Prep Regional Center for their own personal professional development.

2013 -2014

- Students in Cuyahoga Falls Marketing Management and Interactive Media/Design were featured in a page one story in the Wall Street Journal. The article featured the product placement and sponsorship deals developed by the College Tech Prep students to raise money for the Cuyahoga Falls High School music and drama programs.
- Hudson Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Suzanne Hirsch wrote and received a grant of \$4,000 from Fuel Up to Play 60 for nutrition projects, as well as another grant from Donors Choose to purchase pedometers for students and administrators.
- For the first time, Screening and Placement Day was organized for all College Tech Prep Initiatives on the same day in April and hosted by the Davey Tree Expert Co.
- Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) sponsored HPAC, or Health Professions Affinity Community Program, with students from Athletic Health Care and Fitness College Tech Prep. Students wrote a research paper about their projects and presented them to all HPAC groups during NEOMED's April Scholars' Day.
- Eleven science students from Woodridge High School also participated in the Health Professions Affinity Community Program and chose subjects including skin cancer awareness, depression in teens, air pollution health and teen marijuana use. Nine presented at NEOMED's Scholars' Day.
- Project SEARCH interns, as well as other students in College Tech Prep Initiatives, participated in 15-minute mock interviews with professionals at Cuyahoga Falls High School in February. About 50 students presented their resumes and interviewed with area business people.
- Three Professional Development sessions were held for College Tech Prep teachers focusing on EMIS data and Perkins Performance Measures data from the CTPD Report Card.
- Students in Culinary Arts and Catering College Tech Prep collaborated with professionals from the Pro Football Hall of Fame to craft a menu for a luncheon held at Joshua's Restaurant at Stow-Munroe Falls High School. Students designed, prepared and served the luncheon, which followed an all-school assembly honoring Larry Csonka, who graduated from Stow High School in 1964. Csonka played professional football, was a member of the two-time Super Bowl winning Miami Dolphins and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

2014 -2015

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- Planning occurred for two new College Tech Prep Initiatives to open in the fall of 2015-16 – Criminal Justice at Cuyahoga Falls High School and Programming and Software Development at Stow-Munroe Falls.
 - Dual Enrollment plans were created for the new Cuyahoga Falls Criminal Justice College Tech Prep Initiative with The University of Akron and for Auto Technologies College Tech Prep Initiative at Cuyahoga Falls and Hudson with Stark State College.
 - In order to assist the Compact districts with new legislative requirements, a Task Force on College Credit Plus was created to examine the implications for academics within the College Tech Prep offerings.
 - Another Task Force on Career Advising was created to deal with shared policies, student success plans and career development in grades 6-12.
 - Area manufacturers helped provide input in the redesign of the Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies (CADET) College Tech Prep Initiative at Roosevelt. The University of Akron Foundation submitted a successful grant to the Chase Foundation for the “One and Done” advanced manufacturing initiative at The University of Akron College of Applied Science and Technology; Compact personnel provided input for this grant.
 - Three Roosevelt students placed first in entrepreneurship contests at the DECA Career Development Conference held in Orlando in May, while another student placed third. Three of the four first place trophies won by Ohio students were from the Six District Educational Compact.
 - FCCLA teams, part of Family and Consumer Sciences programs, from Stow-Munroe Falls, as well as two teams from Woodridge, all won silver medals at the National Leadership Conference in Washington DC in July.
 - Dr. Richard Ross, Ohio’s Superintendent of Public Instruction, and William Bussey, Director of Career-Technical Education at the Ohio Department of Education, spent a day in September at Roosevelt High School visiting Compact College Tech Prep Initiatives. They toured the CTE wing, talked with students in Forestry and Landscape Management College Tech Prep, heard from Forestry completers now working at the Davey Tree Expert Co. and met with Davey’s management team.

2015 -2016

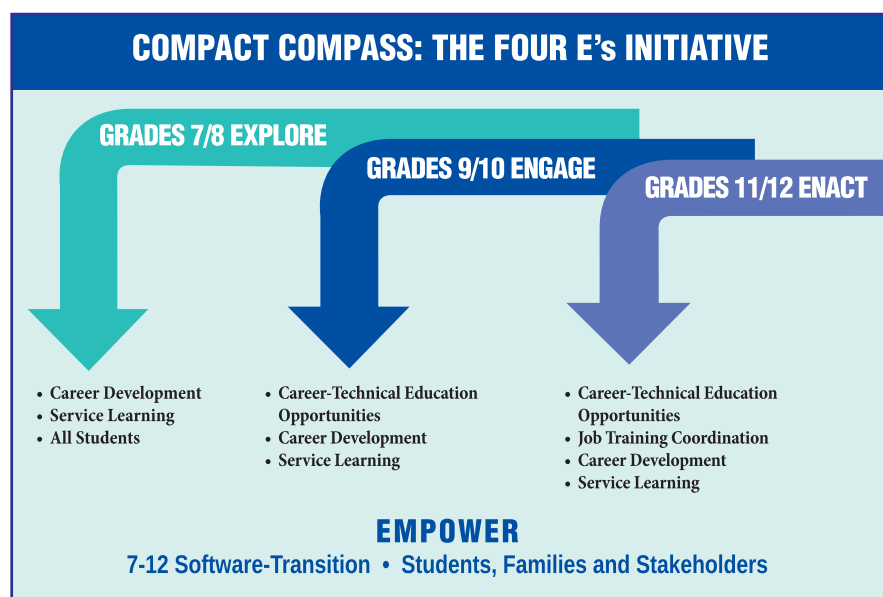
- Two new College Tech Prep Initiatives opened in the fall of 2015 – Criminal Justice at Cuyahoga Falls High School and Programming and Software Development at Stow-Munroe Falls High School.
- The Compact was awarded a \$225,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Education, Office of Exceptional Children for the COMPACT COMPASS: FOUR E’s INITIATIVE. Service Learning is the basis for the grant, which provides career development opportunities and secondary transition services.
- New Middle School CTE initiatives, which allow students to experience various career fields, were implemented by the following districts:
 - Family and Consumer Sciences – Cuyahoga Falls
 - Engineering and Science Technologies – Kent
 - Engineering and Science – Tallmadge
 - Business and Administrative Services - Woodridge

2015 -2016 continued

- Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies (CADET) student Austin Borrero, Roosevelt, won first place and a gold medal in Technical Drafting at SkillsUSA state competition and placed seventh in the nation.
- A number of connections were made between representatives of manufacturing industries in Summit and Portage counties and students and teachers in Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies (CADET) college tech prep initiative.
- The Six District Educational Compact joined the Conexus Manufacturing Network in Summit County to assist with the expansion of manufacturing career awareness and exploration for students, as well as expand options for counselor and teacher professional development.
- Collaborated with the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology, Kent State University for planning of a Summer Engineering Camp for Middle School Students, 2017
- The Compact Mathematics Collaborative was created to allow math teachers in grades K-12 to work together and share ideas with Dr. Kim Yoak as the facilitator for professional development.

2016-2017

- A number of innovative, sustainable strategies were launched as part of the COMPACT COMPASS: THE FOUR E's INITIATIVE. Thanks to an Ohio Department of Education Office for Exceptional Children grant totaling more than \$225,000, Six District Educational Compact middle school and high school general education teachers, intervention specialists, school counselors and administrators, as well as Special Education Directors, were involved. THE FOUR E's INITIATIVE focuses on career development opportunities and secondary transition services for students with disabilities, as well as projects to introduce teams of middle school students to career development through service-learning and project-based learning.



2016-2017 continued

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- The Compact was one of the sponsors of the ConxusNEO ALIGN Conference in March, which focused on how manufacturing and education leaders can shape the future of Summit County's economy. All Compact districts were represented at the event.
 - A Family and Consumer Sciences course for Hudson Middle School was designed for the 2017-2018 school year.
 - The Compact implemented the Girls Geared for Engineering one-week camp in June 2017, which focused on exploration of aerospace engineering and mechatronics in conjunction with Kent State University's College of Aeronautics and Engineering.
 - Meredith Hartsook, a Roosevelt student in Marketing Management, took first place in the Start-Up Business Plan Event at the International DECA Career Development Conference in Anaheim, CA.
 - Fox Noland, a Stow-Munroe Falls student in Programming and Software Development, took first place at the Business Professionals of America Nationals in Orlando, FL in the Information Technology Concepts event and placed in the Top Ten in three other events.
 - The Reading and Writing Festival celebrated its 30th anniversary of providing middle school students with the opportunity to meet and interact with an author of middle grade novels, as well as offering writing competitions and other activities.
 - Compact students served on a panel at NEOnet focusing on uses of technology in the classroom, which was presented to area superintendents and treasurers.
 - The Compact met the compliance requirements of the Carl Perkins legislation.
 - Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies College Tech Prep program at Roosevelt received \$5,000 from the Gene Haas Foundation for scholarships.
 - Thirty-three seniors enrolled in Health Careers Technologies at Roosevelt successfully completed 78 hours of coursework to be the first completers of the Training Competency Evaluation Program for Nursing Assistants. A linkage with Fortis College in Ravenna supported this new initiative.

2017-2018

- Following the success of the 2016-17 COMPACT COMPASS: THE FOUR E's INITIATIVE, an additional \$49,999 of Innovative Strategies Grant funding was provided to the Compact for Phase 2. It allowed the Six District Educational Compact to focus on career development opportunities and secondary transition services for students with disabilities, as well as projects to introduce teams of middle school students to career development. A group of middle school teachers participated in March workshops and helped create a nine-week or one-semester course called "Designing Your Future" for eighth graders. Special education teachers and intervention specialists participated in a two-day summer workshop focused on ways to link academic content standards through service learning.

2017-2018 continued



- In May, seven administrators from the Office of Career-Technical Education at the Ohio Department of Education, toured Compact programs at Roosevelt and Stow-Munroe Falls High School, including Construction Technologies, Forestry and Landscape Management and Electronics, Robotics and Programming, as well as the Engineering Academy and Aeronautics Careers Academy, to learn about academics embedded in the programs and to hear about the many links programs have to business and industry.
- As one of the educational partners involved in ConxusNEO, a group dedicated to cultivating a network of manufacturers, educators, economic development professionals and public-sector leaders throughout Summit County, the Compact participated in “Signing Day.” Two completers of the Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies (CADET) College Tech Prep, Ian Cramer, Roosevelt, and Dylan Gatian, Cuyahoga Falls, were recognized for obtaining employment with manufacturers directly after graduation.
- As part of Saturday Family Workshops and led by Robert and Karen Sykes of the Woodridge Local Schools, a new Anger Management and Conflict Resolution Program benefitted 30 families by helping them proactively deal with anger issues.
- CAD and Engineering Technology instructors Troy Spear and Jeff Bee received the 2017 Manufacturing and Education Workforce Collaboration Award from the Stow-Munroe Falls Chamber of Commerce, which recognized the efforts of companies in the area working with the CADET program.
- As part of an eight-week Research Experience for Teachers (RET) hosted by The University of Akron’s Global Polymer Academy Outreach program, Stow-Munroe Falls Engineering Academy teacher Dave Helmick focused on 3D printer filament flow and how different stresses and strains are applied to the material. He conducted his research into the latest trends in polymer research at UA’s National Polymer Innovation Center, High-Bay Lab.
- Seven area Rotary Clubs, including Cuyahoga Falls Rotary Club, Hudson Rotary Club, Hudson Clocktower Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Kent, Northampton/Cuyahoga Valley Rotary Club, Stow-Munroe Falls Rotary Club and Tallmadge Rotary Club, were recognized at the CARE awards ceremony for enthusiastically supporting numerous projects to combat substance abuse and support wellness initiatives.
- The Compact Executive Director and two Compact Special Needs personnel conducted a focus group with Directors of area Chamber of Commerce groups to brainstorm ideas about developing new work-based experience opportunities for students with disabilities.
- As part of the Compact partnership with Summa Health, the two-day, Summer Burbick Experience was reinstated in July to give middle school girls one-on-one job shadowing experiences.
- The Compact Executive Director presented at the ODE Regional SUCCESS BOUND Conference in April and discussed the Compact’s Project SEARCH program.

2018

- Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, the ongoing Compact “Teaching to Empower in Mathematics” project expanded to include collaborative sessions involving elementary to high school math teachers.

- Firestone Polymers, a part of Bridgestone Americas Inc., donated a piece of testing equipment called an Oscillating Disc Rheometer (ODR) to the polymers rotation of the Engineering Academy at Stow-Munroe Falls High School.

- A dedicated Task Force recommended changes to the Career Passport initiative, which were approved by Compact Superintendents. Beginning in 2020, completers, who meet the criteria, will receive a new Compact Passport—Excellence in Career-Technical Education—a document which identifies the high level of student performance in a workforce development program.

- In order to address workforce development needs in Northeastern Ohio, Compact personnel participated with ConxusNeo in SECTOR Partnership meetings for Manufacturing, IT and Healthcare in order to make connections to appropriate CTE programs.

- As part of the continuation of the Compact Plan for the Future, a committee met to identify potential CTE offerings, special education needs and equity/access issues in order to set a direction for the upcoming years. These projects include staff professional development and partnerships with new businesses and industries, including health care, manufacturing and information technology. In June 2019, the Executive Committee approved the three-year Compact Plan for the Future, defining new Career-Technical Education programs.

- Discussions with Summa Health representatives continued regarding expanding the Compact-Summa Partnership to include on-site opportunities for Athletic Health Care and Fitness and Health Careers Technologies Career-Technical programs.

- Compact representatives were named to serve on the Ohio Department of Education Statewide Committee, which was charged to redesign the CTE Report Card and to the ODE Task Force on the new Perkins legislation.

- A group of Compact leaders finalized CTE Grids, which report EMIS data for maximum funding and student scheduling.

- The Six District Educational Compact (CTPD) received an Ohio Department of Education approval of the Perkins Full Compliance Monitoring.

2019

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- The Six District Educational Compact kicked off a celebratory year marking its 50th anniversary. This milestone marks a journey of discovery of new opportunities for student learning that address the workforce and economic needs of Northeast Ohio. The opening in Fall of 2020 of the EntrepreNEW Academy, an innovative and immersive CTE program for students interested in creating and launching their own businesses, was announced.
 - Makers of Tomorrow, a new week-long summer camp, introduced 27 middle school students to career opportunities in manufacturing. It was sponsored by the Compact, ConxusNEO and area manufacturing companies and taught by CTE teachers in the CADET program.
 - Tallmadge students Emily Tran and Sydney Marcum were elected to state leadership positions for the Family and Consumer Sciences State Executive Council.
 - A group of Ohio freshman legislators organized by State Representative Randi Clites met with leaders from the Davey Tree Expert Co., as well as Compact personnel, to discuss the Compact's partnership with the company and its many benefits.
 - Thanks to a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, Compact teachers and administrators participated in summer and fall math workshops led by Dr. Kim Yoak. The focus is promoting equity empowerment and deep learning in mathematics. Area business leaders shared their experiences about how a knowledge of math is crucial in the workplace.
 - Roosevelt CTE teachers and the Kent City Schools created a partnership framework with University Hospitals Portage Medical Center to present a Career Day and other job shadowing opportunities.
 - In November, staff members from the Ohio Department of Education toured CTE programs at Cuyahoga Falls, Roosevelt, Stow-Munroe Falls and Tallmadge high schools to learn about the latest teaching strategies and program initiatives. This was the first all-day visitation in a Compact setting.
 - The Computer Aided Design and Engineering Technologies (CADET) program received a \$13,000 grant from the Lozick Foundation. Grant monies will be used to purchase toolboxes and kits for both current and incoming students, as well as apparel.
 - The Gene Haas Foundation awarded the CADET program a \$10,000 grant. The funding is to be used for scholarships, summer camp opportunities and to offset expenses for certifications.
 - David Helmick, Stow-Munroe Falls science teacher who instructs the polymer rotation in the Engineering Academy, spent a second summer conducting polymer research as part of the eight-week Research Experience for Teachers in Polymer Engineering program at The University of Akron sponsored by the National Science Foundation.
 - "Unplugged Adventures," a collaboration between the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center and Compact, was designed as a new weeklong summer school opportunity.

2020-2021

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- **EntrepreNEW Academy** opened in the Fall of 2020 and is an immersive program for students interested in starting a business or learning entrepreneurial skills. Located in a community classroom in downtown Cuyahoga Falls, the CTE program is in partnership with Woodridge Local Schools, the City of Cuyahoga Falls, the Burton D. Morgan Foundation and the Compact.
 - The **Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies (CADET)** program was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant, one of 10 made by America Makes and Ohio Secondary Education Additive Manufacturing Training Network.
 - Despite the challenges of a pandemic year, almost all CTE programs operated primarily in-person during the school year and incorporated virtual experiences, including worksite visits and interactive chats with experts.
 - A new CTE program, **Modern Communication through Media Production**, was finalized to begin in the Fall of 2021 at Cuyahoga Falls and Hudson high schools, incorporating media facilities in those two cities. Summer professional development included developing the course of study, working with the Design Team, and identifying appropriate equipment and resources. Visits to four other CTE programs occurred in late May.
 - The Compact hosted three Zoom sessions with five Northeastern Ohio legislators to discuss funding for Career-Technical Education programming, especially for new program development. This occurred as part of National Career Tech Education Month.
 - Marketing initiatives, including the traditional Orientation and Visitation Days, transitioned to virtual events because of the pandemic. In addition, students were encouraged to look at new 3-D photographs of each program on the updated Compact website, which also featured new program overviews.
 - The Perkins V Local Application was submitted for FY22 funding.
 - The Compact Math Collaborative continued with a focus on “Empowering Language in Mathematics.”
 - Engineering Academy students at Stow-Munroe Falls High School received a \$900 NICE grant to purchase sensory seating for the new multifunctional atrium they designed to provide a place for students to de-stress. A \$16,790 grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation helped buy equipment including terrariums.
 - Long-time Compact educators retired this year, including Tallmadge Superintendent Jeff Ferguson, Hudson Auto Technologies instructor Gary Reynolds, Roosevelt Forestry and Landscape Management instructor John Lang, Cuyahoga Falls business teacher Yvonne Federonick and Cuyahoga Falls Middle School Counselor Linda Ferreira.
 - Todd Remenaric, Aeronautics Careers Academy instructor at Stow-Munroe Falls High School, earned his Private Pilot Certificate thanks to a \$10,000 scholarship from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, which paid for his flying lessons.
 - Compact Transition Services, including the Transition Services Guide, was redesigned to incorporate elements for greater student effectiveness and efficiency.
 - Mary Beth Harper provided marketing services to the Compact for over 26 years and retired effective Summer 2021. Mary Beth was a devoted and requisite component of many Compact publications, including the annual report, course catalog, and Compact and program newsletters. We appreciate these years of service.

2021-2022

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- The Compact partnered with Western Reserve Hospital to establish the Charting Careers program. Students from six Compact programs now have the opportunity to access internship and/or employment opportunities as well as career development at various departments within the hospital. Eleven students within these programs interned during the school year and all landed paid employment over the summer. Several students will continue employment in the fall, working around their college schedules.
 - The Career Catalog was redesigned in an effort to better reach our students and families in the dynamic world we live in. Updated elements include complete success stories from each program, QR codes linking each program to its webpage and digital notebook as well as updated photography.
 - The Compact launched social media pages on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook! Follow us: @sixdistrictCTE
 - Modern Manufacturing for Employment was finalized and will be offered at Stow-Munroe Falls High School starting in the 2022-2023 school year. This program will prepare students for in-demand manufacturing careers with a strong focus on employability skills. Apprenticeships will be available to Level II students, along with credits from Stark State College.
 - Various healthcare professionals were recognized at the 2022 C.A.R.E. awards ceremony and dinner. The Compact superintendents honored district nurses and individuals from Akron Children's Hospital, the Kent City Health Department and the Summit County Health Departments for their unwavering commitment to providing the districts with accurate and timely information, encouragement and assistance for over two years during the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Woodridge High School, under the direction of Family and Consumer Science instructor Leah Norris, hosted the Ohio Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Region 2 Career Development Events competition. Fifty-seven teams competed from various area high schools during the day-long competition. Eleven teams from Compact schools earned either Gold or Silver for their presentations.
 - Athletic Health Care and Fitness at Roosevelt expanded to allow for 50 new Level I students each school year. This expansion included the addition of a new instructor and renovated classroom lab.
 - CTE instructors, administrators, counselors and EMIS coordinators participated in professional development regarding Work-Based Learning led by the Work-Based Learning Coordinator and Executive Director. This PD provided staff with updated state and federal requirements, as well as a structured system to track student's experiences and hours.
 - Auto Technologies (Hudson) now occupies the former Gear Heads on State Road in Cuyahoga Falls. The classroom and lab space underwent significant renovations with major assistance from the Hudson City Schools maintenance department.

2022-23

- After the Covid-19 pandemic halted several celebrations marking the first 50 years of the Six District Educational Compact, the 50+3 anniversary celebration took place in March at Silver Lake Country Club. The evening featured 150 guests and contributors that highlighted the Compact's 53 years of collaboration, cooperation and innovation. Current students from Modern Communication through Media Production provided audio-visual services for the event.

- A new program at Cuyahoga Falls High School was developed and marketed to begin during the 2023-2024 school year: Community Agriculture for Local Impact.

- Programming and Software Development completer and Stow-Munroe Falls senior, Emmett Johnson, won 2nd Place in Python Programming at the Business of Professionals of America's National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California.

- Level II students from Modern Communication through Media Production traveled to San Francisco, CA where they attended the 2023 Journalism Education Association National High School Journalism Convention, along with over 3,500 students from 47 states. Four Compact students made professional presentations regarding ethical marketing strategies and building a podcast from scratch.

- Emily Kilgore, EntrepreNew Pathways instructor, was awarded the Summit County Teacher of the Year Award at the annual Summit County Education Celebration.

- Students from Business and Sports Management participated in the Ohio Academy of Science's Believe in Ohio STEM Innovation and Entrepreneurship program where they conducted authentic research projects. Several students' STEM plans and pitches earned them significant scholarships including three individual \$5,000 scholarships and one team \$10,000 scholarship.

- Students utilized the new Work-Based Learning online tracking system, developed by the Compact, to report the hours that they worked in work-based learning experiences; over 80,000 hours were reported for the school year.

- Completers from Collision Repair and Auto Refinishing and Health Careers Technologies as well as current students from Athletic Health Care and Fitness, Modern Communication through Media Production and Programming and Software Development presented at Lakeview Intermediate School in Stow's inaugural Career Café for 6th graders. Presenters offered 6th graders a glimpse at their career pathway through hands-on activities and provided a deeper understanding of their CTE program and potential careers.

- Family and Consumer Sciences student and FCCLA member, Teresa Pasky (Stow-Munroe Falls) was one of 14 students nationwide to have earned a merit-based scholarship to participate in a Japanese summer exchange program. The Japan summer program is a 6-week homestay experience with a local Japanese family where Teresa will have the opportunity to spend a few days attending Japanese high school as a guest student.

- Hudson Automotive Technologies received a 2011 hybrid Toyota Prius from a private donor. Toyota of Kent supplied the program with over \$800 for students to rebuild the engine. This vehicle provides students with excellent hands-on experiences during the alternative-fueled vehicles unit and also ties into the students' environmental science curriculum.

2023-24

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- The inaugural Career Program Showcase was held at Kent State University in January. This recruitment event welcomed over 1,500 students, parents, community members, and local industry professionals to view exhibits of the 29 CTE programs. Roughly 150 student ambassadors played an integral role in the event; they completed a two-day leadership training and worked extensively with their instructors to market their program and share their personal stories regarding their program participation.
 - Project SEARCH completer Emilee Gerstenslager ('23 Cuyahoga Falls) was honored at Goodwill's Annual Taste of Vintage gala fundraiser as the Mission Moment of the year. Emilee was selected for the honor for her accomplishments as an Environmental Aide at Summa Health.
 - Kent City Schools was awarded over \$2.3 million in special state funding to expand Career-Technical Education facilities at Theodore Roosevelt High School. During the summer of 2024, construction began for the state-of-the-art addition that will include 3,500 square feet of additional lab space, allowing for expanded enrollment in the engineering and manufacturing pathways.
 - The Academy of Finance Careers at Tallmadge was created and marketed to begin during the 2024-2025 school year.
 - A new job-training coordination program, housed at Laurel Lake Retirement Community, was created after several years of planning and coordination to begin during the 2024-2025 school year. Launch at Laurel Lake will provide students with on-the-job training and classroom instruction to strengthen students' employment success. Students will receive individualized support from job coaches to sustain competitive, integrated employment upon exiting the program. Katie Poulin was appointed the job training coordinator for this new initiative.
 - Both Automotive Technologies programs (Cuyahoga Falls and Hudson) received the renewal of the prestigious National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) Certification.
 - The Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapter at Woodridge High School attended the national leadership competition and conference in Seattle. Claire Gregory and Gracie Springer placed first in the nation in the National Programs in Action, Student Body event. Other national winning teams included Izzy Howell and Haley Walter (fifth place) and Rachel LaGuardia and Izzy Scebbi (tenth place).
 - The Teaching Professions team of Alyvia Bucks (Hudson) and Eva Kemper (Cuyahoga Falls) attended the EdRising national competition in Washington, D.C. The team placed second for the project, "The Chill Center," aimed at supporting students' mental health.

2024-25

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- Roosevelt High School formed a chapter of the National Technical Honors Society and inducted 168 members at the inaugural ceremony.
 - Teams from the Stow-Munroe Falls and Woodridge chapters of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) attended the national competition in Orlando. The Stow-Munroe Falls team of Anisha Barua and Kamryn Martin placed first in Level 3 Promote & Publicize. The Woodridge team of Lola Mullen and Lily Singer placed first in Level 2 Sports Nutrition. Additionally, the following teams placed in the top ten: Stella Haines and Sophia Pecoraro (Stow-Munroe Falls), Sarah Bowles, Rylie McMonigle, and Izzy Scebbi (Woodridge), and Xavier Griffiths, Ben LeBay, and Jake Su (Woodridge).
 - District administration, including superintendents, curriculum directors, principals, special education personnel, school counselors, and other Compact representatives, met as part of the continuation of the Compact Plan for the Future. Topics covered included: in-demand career sectors, enrollment data, potential future programs, and funding. A plan was created for the next five years.
 - A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the opening of the Engineering and Advanced Technologies Center at Theodore Roosevelt High School. Governor Mike DeWine joined Compact school officials, students, and community and industry members at the state-of-the-art 3,500 square foot lab and classroom funded by a \$2.3 million grant from the Ohio Career Technical Construction Program. Students in the Computer-Aided Design and Engineering Technologies and the Engineering Academy: Advanced STEM programs will utilize the space to prepare for in-demand careers.
 - Computer Science Pathways students, Katherine Benson (Hudson) and Charlie Clements (Stow-Munroe Falls), were recognized by the National Center for Women and Information Technology at the 2025 Aspirations in Computing Awards.
 - Electronics, Robotics, and Programming instructor Ted Karam was selected as the Educator of the Year for ETA® International (Electronics Technicians Association, International, Inc.).
 - The Academy of Finance Careers partnered with New Horizon Federal Credit Union to open a branch at Tallmadge High School. The credit union employs Finance students, providing a work-based learning experience within the high school.
 - Tallmadge City Schools received a \$298,780 Career-Technical Education Equipment Grant for Software Development / Coding at the high school from the State of Ohio.
 - The Compact earned a 5-Star Rating on the 2024-2025 State Report Card from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Although this is not the first year that the Compact has earned a 5-Star Rating, this year's report card was exceptional. A few highlights include: 9 out of 9 federal indicators were met; 5-star ratings were achieved in all four components, including Achievement, Career & Post-Secondary Readiness, Graduation Rate, and Post-Program Outcomes; and a 95% overall assessment passage rate, with a 99.7% assessment participation rate.