



THE FORUM

for WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

January 2022

OUTREACH UPDATES

The Forum for Workforce Development, along with the [Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation](#) (IDC) and the [Economic Growth Connection](#) (EGC), are always reaching out to businesses here in Westmoreland County. Kim Donnelly from the IDC, Kyle Martin from EGC, along with Austin Anderson from the Forum have held both virtual and in-person outreach meetings, and these meetings occur weekly. The past couple of months have included meetings with Master-Lee Energy Services, Unifirst Corporation, General Nuclear Corporation, Ellison Faris Surface Solutions, and Cleveland-Cliffs (ArcelorMittal).

Our intent is to simply share with the businesses in Westmoreland County information and resources that are available and how our organizations may be able to assist to make sure businesses succeed in every aspect.

Would you and your business like to meet with us? Please contact [Austin Anderson](#) and we will happily set up an outreach meeting.

VIRTUAL CAREER MENTORING

The Forum, in partnership with the [Consortium for Public Education](#), is offering an opportunity called Virtual Career Mentoring. This model, which can be offered virtually or as a hybrid, not only helps students explore careers and learn about building professional relationships, but also gives employers visibility among the next generation of workers. For schools, this opportunity can help expand mentoring opportunities and meet the [Pennsylvania Dept. of Education \(PDE\)](#) requirements for work-based learning experiences.

Have a business you want to have a career mentoring session with, or you want your business to participate? Let [Anthony](#) or [Austin](#) know!

EGC MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

The Economic Growth Connection is hosting its Annual Membership Luncheon on Thursday, Feb. 24th at 11:15am at the Fred Rogers Center on the campus of Saint Vincent College. For a list of speakers, directions, EGC's sponsors, and to register and purchase tickets, please visit EGC's website [here](#). Attendance is limited, so please reserve your seats today. We look forward to seeing you there!



Economic Growth Connection

CAREER JOURNEYS VIDEO SERIES

The Forum has partnered with the [Consortium for Public Education](#) to help create **Career Journeys**, a video series focused on giving students a chance to explore careers by having informal conversations with people in a wide array of occupations spanning many industries.

To view more Career Journeys videos, along with supplemental materials for educators to help students explore careers, visit the Consortium for Public Education's website [HERE](#).



Brittany Katofsky

Product Development Chemist
PPG

PARTNERUP PROGRAM

The Forum for Workforce Development has met with Brianna McMeekin, Development Program Manager for the PartnerUp program. The PartnerUp program is a business-led collaborative that builds partnerships between high school students and educators in underserved communities to employers with career opportunities.



Through an employer-designed 11th & 12th grade curriculum, customized experiences and access to employer resources, PartnerUp empowers students to enter, and thrive in, a job market immediately after high school education. For Educators, PartnerUp gives you access to employer perspectives and expertise that enhance the real-world application of your classroom lessons and levels the playing field for your students considering careers immediately after graduation. For Employers, you have talent needs, and extraordinary talent is right in your own back yard. PartnerUp provides immediate access to thousands of students in your community and the opportunity to shape your future workforce.

Know a business that would be interested in participating in PartnerUp? Contact [Anthony Princeton](#) for more details & how to get involved.

CAREER SNAPSHOTS & TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

Last year, the Forum for Workforce Development got a significant start to one of our virtual opportunities, Career Snapshots. Thanks to funding from the **FirstEnergy Foundation** and the **Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Investment Board**, the Forum completed 4 of these experiences last year, while also starting experiences with a handful of others and outreaching to many more. Completed experiences include the Advanced Technology Center, Tenaska Power Generating Facility, Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center, and DMI Companies. These experiences will be hosted on the Career Hub very soon; for now, you can click on their names to view their experiences below.

- [Advanced Technology Center \(ATC\)](#)
- [Tenaska Power Generating Facility](#)
- [Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center](#)
- [DMI Companies](#)

Some of the companies we are currently working with on Career Snapshots are National Dentex Laboratories, Stellar Precision, TribLive, Ventana USA, and New Century Careers. Some prospects we have for this experience and companies we have outreached to include Agile Additive (formerly known as Tronix3D), Small Auto, Redstone, FirstEnergy Foundation, S&T Bank, K Castings, General Carbide and Argo AI.

For anyone wanting to learn how to navigate and utilize Career Snapshots, the Forum has created a tool to easily learn how to walk through these experiences and how they can be utilized in the classroom. You can find the [Career Snapshot tool here](#) and on the Career Hub in the near future.

The Forum is always looking for different industries and businesses to participate in Career Snapshots and any of our career exploration opportunities. Do you have a company/industry students want to see and explore? Do you want your business to participate? Please contact [Austin Anderson](#) with questions and ideas. We look forward to this initiative creating more business partners and opportunities for our students in the Forum.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS!

