



Jay-Blackford Manufacturing Council

The Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) is showcasing five implementation grant plans that emerged from a six-month planning experience in 2016. We've previously highlighted the [Perry Central Education Workforce Partnership](#), the [Lebanon EWIN Partnership](#), and the [Ripley County Information Security Pathways](#).

This month we will feature the implementation plan of the Jay-Blackford Manufacturing Council. The partnership was facilitated by the John Jay Center for Learning and was also a recipient of SkillUp! Round 2.

The goal is for the Manufacturing Council to build a Pathway System that ensures teaching of the right skills, at the right time, in the right way.

Webinar

***John Jay Center for Learning presents:
Manufacturing Council Implementation Plan
Tuesday, August 29th, 2 p.m. EST***



[Site Visit](#)
Join EWIN at the John Jay Center for Learning
Portland, IN
Tuesday, September 19th, 10 a.m. EST
[Register here.](#)

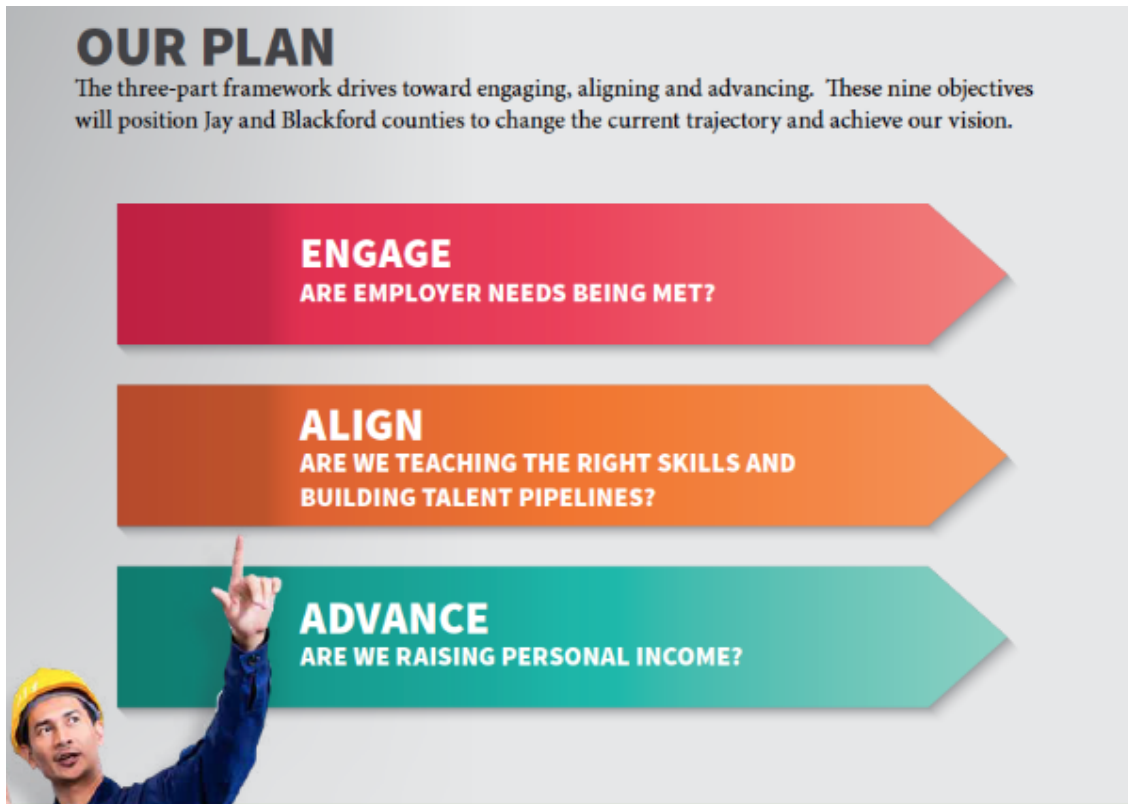


Figure 1. The mission of Jay Blackford Manufacturing Council at John Jay Center for Learning is to provide quality education and training that enables students to better their lives financially and to positively contribute to the communities in which they work and live.

Transforming Rural Indiana

The John Jay Center for Learning was born out of a conversation that if Jay County wanted to compete in the 21st century global economy, it would need a community college in the area. So in 1999, a group of concerned citizens met every Monday morning to discuss the possibility of bringing more postsecondary options to the county. The idea became reality in 2001, and the John Jay Center for Learning opened through a partnership with Ivy Tech Community College and with the dream to offer career and technical education in a region where manufacturing and agriculture reign.

With more than 40% of the economy driven by jobs in manufacturing, as goes manufacturing, so goes Jay and Blackford County. The area workforce has an aging population without a skilled pool of local employees to fill the jobs of future retirees. The John Jay Center for Learning, Jay School Corporation and Blackford County schools aligned to form the Jay-Blackford Manufacturing Alliance to improve their communities' prospects. The Alliance aims to provide opportunities to fill the skills gap and provide high-skill, high-demand and high-paying jobs in the region.

In small communities such as ours, there remains a significant number of people who do not go away to college, but stay home and enter the workforce. This manufacturing alliance is our chance to make our "most" better.

Better education. Better opportunities. A better life for their families. A better future for East Central Indiana.

Jay-Blackford Manufacturing Council's Strategic Plan

- 1. Establish job forecast and skill demand.** We will target skills gap needs identified by our regional partnership aimed at meeting workforce needs and aligning education to the occupations that will be available in the region and across the state.
- 2. Conduct profiles and identify gap analysis.** We will gather information from employers to identify knowledge and skills central to workers performing specific job duties successfully.
- 3. Develop competency maps.** We will develop and utilize curriculum around the needed knowledge, skills and abilities identified by our regional sector partnership.
- 4. Create employer-driven curriculum.** We will develop a program of study aligned with employer-defined priorities.
- 5. Provide employer-driven workforce training.** We will establish the region's premier industrial maintenance adult workforce training center.
- 6. Integrate counseling advising system.** We will provide career counseling support throughout the system.
- 7. Identify high-wage sectors and related jobs.** We will align education to the occupations that are forecasted to be available in the region and across the state.
- 8. Coordinate with educators.** We will ensure that our Career Pathway System is aligned with competencies that culminate in a locally-defined, industry-recognized certification process and direct employment.



Certifying the Advanced Manufacturing Workforce

The John Jay Learning Center is working closely with Wright State - Lake Campus to use the SkillsTrac program. SkillsTrac is a comprehensive industrial maintenance training program designed for the rapidly changing manufacturing industry. This competency-based, employer funded program is built for incumbent workers interested in the maintenance field and housed at the John Jay Center for Learning in Portland, Indiana.

SkillsTrac is a blended program offering online learning from ToolingU SME, a partner since 2009. Online classes can be accessed anytime and anywhere with the hands-on validation labs. The program consists of multiple skill modules, and each module builds upon skills learned in earlier modules or actual work experience. The John Jay Center has worked closely with employers to ensure each of the competencies within the levels meet industry needs. Each level will also be correlated to local wages so that local learners have a way to move up the career ladder.

Connect with EWIN



These showcased partnerships were fueled by **CELL's Education Workforce Partnership Planning Grants**. Jay/Blackford County was also the recipient of a Skill UP Round 2 grant. EWIN just [announced](#) another round of planning grants for the 2017 year.

Indiana Pathways Leadership calls are presented by the National Center for College and Career transitions every month around a variety of topics. The upcoming August call will include a presentation from Alignment Rockford's collective impact and Ford NGL model. Please contact [Alisa Deck](#) or [Shannon Doody](#) if you would like to join!



Join EWIN on a **National Study Visit!** This fall we will travel to P-TECH, Denver Public Schools, and Cardinal Manufacturing. Please contact [Alisa Deck](#) or [Shannon Doody](#) if you would like more information.

