

# Legislative Forum

A Legislative Forum on education was held at Four County Career Center with Senator Randy Gardner, Senator Robert McColley, Representative James Hoops and Representative Craig Riedel all attending. Tim Meister, Superintendent at the Career Center, led the discussion with topics that each legislator was given the opportunity to expound upon.

Topics for discussion included graduation requirements and school report cards, the Ohio Department of Education and how it is viewed by legislators, the Education Regulation Act, funding available to school systems for security issues along with students' emotional and mental health issues, funding for school transportation, and mandated testing for students. Each legislator had the opportunity to respond to each of these issues while educators had the opportunity to voice their views and concerns to the legislators.

Representative Hoops related how he had the opportunity to meet with students from local schools and was impressed with their insight in the responsibility students are taking for their future and the safety of their schools. In response to the Education Regulation Act, Representative Riedel thought this was a great bill that would give more control to the local school districts allowing them to make decisions that were best for them.

Senator McColley reiterated the importance that the schools have with workforce development issues and how the schools can help to make good things happen in our workforce. Senator Gardner was also appreciative of the work that the schools are doing in positive education. He concluded by saying that schools are better than they were five years ago and will just continue to get better as educators and legislators work together on the hard issues facing schools today.

Four County Career Center is appreciative to these Legislators for taking time from their busy schedules for this discussion forum with local educators.

