

The Education and Workforce Development Committee for the Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce is gearing up to support our network of educational and business partners throughout Iredell County. No doubt every business would like to hire employees with excellent "soft skills" and technological skills, it benefits the business and the employee. For far too long we have worked in silos, it is time for business and education to form a partnership to build pathways to better futures.

According to the NC Chamber Foundation, 50% of NC employers can't find the talent they need today and estimates that by 2030 nearly two million jobs will require high-quality postsecondary degrees or credentials. Together in Iredell County as business and industry leaders we can help make sure we have the pipeline we need to be successful well beyond 2030.

We are coming to Mooresville for our monthly meeting on Thursday February 13, 2025 to share how our local academic community (MGSD, ISS, ARS, MCC) are working together with our committee to find answers. Currently we have projects working with the Boys and Girls Club of the Piedmont to mentor and introduce Iredell business and industry to middle and high school students. We are also working with STEM programs to help provide funding and educational opportunities for students to better understand what we have to offer here in Iredell. The educational community has overwhelmingly accepted our invitation to work to build a workforce looking out 10 to 20 years, to make sure we provide our stakeholders with resources to be successful.

With the support of the Iredell Economic Development Corporation and Iredell Ready, our educational partners and many business and industry leaders, we are poised to make Iredell County shine as a leader in workforce development. If you or a representative is unable to join us on the February13<sup>th</sup> but interested in learning more, please reach out to me at <a href="mailto:ieffrey.taylor@piedmonthealthcare.com">ieffrey.taylor@piedmonthealthcare.com</a>. Won't you join us? Please make plans to attend the Education and Workforce Development Committee:

Thursday February 13, 2025
Mitchell Community College – Mooresville Campus
Tice Room 103
9:00 am until 10:00 am

We hope you will join us in our mission to "facilitate innovative partnerships among business, educators, students, and stakeholders to deliver a world-class workforce.

Sincerely,

Jeff Taylor

Piedmont HealthCare

Vice Chair - Education & Workforce Development, Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce