Recommendations and requests from the Industry and Education Consortium to CareerSource Chipola

The Industry and Education Consortium meet March 6, 2025 online and in-person at the Community Room of the Marianna Career Center.

The meeting started with current labor market information as well as employment projections through 2032 as developed by FloridaCommerce.

The remainder of the meeting was a general discussion by the members and the Executive Director about methods CareerSource Chipola may help employers and educational institutions connect to provide “micro” credentials or short-term credentials.

Key Points:

* Industry is no longer as concerned about degrees, or multi year training programs for a growing list of jobs.
* Task specific “micro” training is both cost and time efficient and gives the employee and the employer an ability to see if a job is a good match well before investing significant time and effort into the position.
* School districts have the ability to fund materials and equipment but have a much greater issue finding staff that are affordable, available, and able to provide the necessary training with the proper industry background.
* Concern was expressed about the potential impact on students (the future workforce) in the aftermath of both Hurricane Michael and Covid.
* Customized training of existing staff continues to be viewed as a way to help employers get the most from existing staff while also helping existing staff be better prepared to advance up the career ladder with the current employer or future employers.