To [insert name of superintendent or principal or school board members]

My child attends [insert name of school district], and I appreciate the efforts

you have made to prepare my child for success in college and the workforce. I wanted to bring to your attention another great resource you might use from the Ohio Department of Education. Career Connections is a collection of resources to help students in grades K-12 explore the skills and knowledge needed for rigorous postsecondary education and training and prepare for high-skill, high-wage careers. These resources can be found by searching for “Career Connections” at education.ohio.gov. One tool in particular is the OhioMeansJobs K-12 website, which guides students through career exploration based on their interests. It is a no-cost career planning resource that focuses on opportunities available in Ohio.

Also, I have learned of a new educational approach called SuccessBound, and it can help us do even more. SuccessBound aims to address our community’s workforce development needs and inspires communities to create educational opportunities to prepare students for their futures. As part of the national New Skills for Youth grant, Ohio’s SuccessBound encourages opportunities that link our students to coursework, industry-recognized credentials and job experience to help them realize their career goals and strengthen our community. Are you familiar with it? (Include link). I encourage you to explore it and urge you to get involved.

I know my child isn’t the only one who is unaware of the different career-focused opportunities available to students right in our own community, and using the tools from Ohio Department of Education can help. Career Connections provides a framework by which students develop a vision and realistic plan for their futures, and SuccessBound can help our community establish partnerships that will increase the workforce opportunities for students. Benefits include:

* Education pathways so students gain the skills they need for in-demand jobs.
* Opportunities for work-based learning experiences and internships.
* Engaging learning experiences for students.
* Help for students to plan for their careers by taking stock of what skills and resources they need to be successful in those careers.
* Networking opportunities for students to meet business leaders in the community.
* Opportunities to help students earn more, so they can finance their futures.

Thank you for considering becoming a SuccessBound community. I am ready and willing to assist you in finding community business partners and networking.

Sincerely,

[Insert parent’s name, title, and names and ages of children in the district]