The Young Entrepreneurs Consortium is leading a multi-year initiative to create an innovative model for community engagement.

Entrepreneurial activity is a key indicator of new business creation in the U.S. Ohio ranks among states with the lowest rates of entrepreneurial activity at .20% compared to Montana at .61% (Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation).

Improved economic outcomes

With a commitment to grow the regional economy from Northeast to Southeast Ohio, 31 education, community, and business partners joined together to form the Young Entrepreneurs Consortium.

The Young Entrepreneurs Consortium serves 26,549 students, which is equal to the 4th largest school district in Ohio.

This work is made possible through funding support from the Straight A Fund grant.
The goal of the Young Entrepreneurs Consortium is to increase student achievement and encourage and nurture important life skills associated with an entrepreneurial mindset; skills like collaboration, communication, problem-solving, creativity, and self-discipline.

To do this work, the Consortium is building a robust Education-to-Employment Model, impacting grades 6–14, exposing students to five career and technical pathways, work-based learning experiences, and leverage problem-based learning, to prepare students for success in college, on the job, and in life.

The substantial and lasting value of this consortium is to:

- Increase the flow of young entrepreneurs to grow local economies from Northeast to Southeast Ohio;
- Establish and grow a sustainable consortium with significant community engagement to better share services and resources that will continue to enhance student achievement from grades Pre-K–18;
- Create a replicable template for a variety of career pathways (grades 6–14) and work-based learning.

It is impressive to walk into class rooms and see total interaction and engagement. The technology has also supported the problem-based learning units and has enhanced the learning outcomes.

—Southeast Local Schools

The work of the Consortium really gives students the ability to see the opportunities available to them in any given career field.

—R.G. Drage CareerTech Center

Having an entrepreneurial pathway, that really begins at the middle school level, connects our students directly to a community-wide push to address small and local business development in our area.

—Marietta City Schools