

Wolverine Enterprises LLC

A MODEL OF EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT
THROUGH STUDENT-BASED
ENTERPRISES



What It Is

Wolverine Enterprises is a student-based enterprise made up of six micro-enterprises: Ag Enterprises, Precision Manufacturing, Machining, Fine Arts & Design, Frozen Feasts, and Print Services. Launched through the Ready Schools Initiative, this work-based learning (WBL) program provides students with authentic, hands-on experience operating real businesses within a simulated school-based setting. The experience is sustained, aligned with coursework, and guided by educators in collaboration with industry and community partners such as Conexus Indiana, the Greene County Community Foundation, and Lilly Endowment Inc.

What Students Do

Students apply academic and technical skills in real-world business settings. They are expected to:

- Participate for at least 25 hours, fulfilling WBL criteria
- Operate in specific business units to complete customer orders, manage logistics, and maintain quality control
- Demonstrate professional behavior, collaboration, and problem-solving
- Align their work with career and technical education (CTE) standards and receive feedback from advisors
- Contribute to business goals such as client satisfaction and community service

EXPERIENCE SNAPSHOT

School

White River Valley
High School

**Location**

Switz City, Indiana

**Industry**

Six Different Industries

**Participants**

High School Juniors &
Seniors



Industry Involvement

Employers and business professionals actively support Wolverine Enterprises by serving on the Executive Board, providing mentorship and feedback, setting real-world quality expectations, and collaborating on client projects and community-based initiatives. Their involvement helps ensure the program remains relevant and aligned with evolving industry needs.

School-Based Enterprise Definition

Student-led business that operates within a school, where students produce goods or provide services to real customers, allowing them to gain hands-on experience in running and managing a business.



VALUE FOR EMPLOYERS

Work-based learning isn't just about giving back—it's a strategic investment in your future workforce.

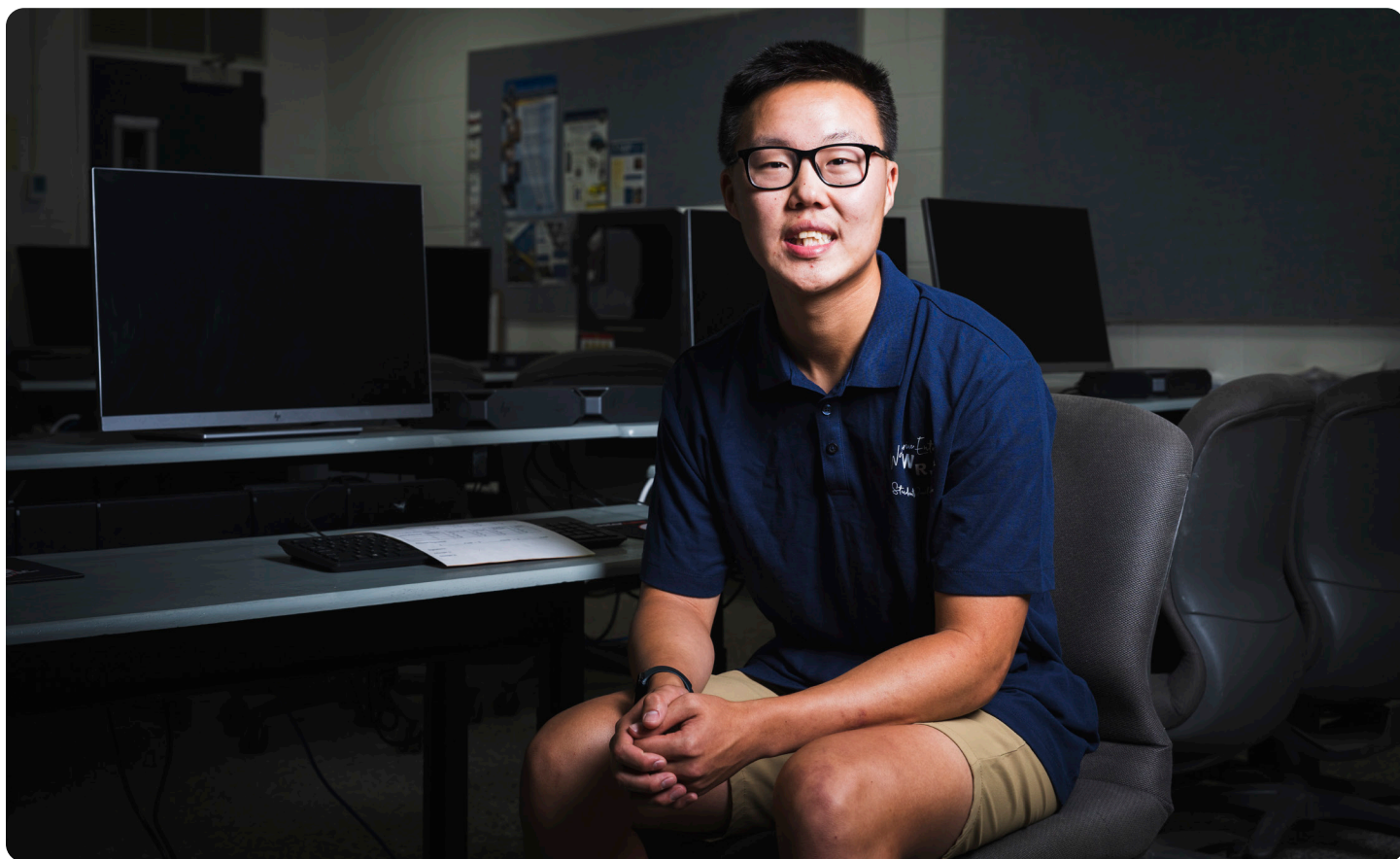
- Promote awareness of your industry
- Build a pipeline of career-ready talent
- Strengthen your company's community presence
- Lower hiring and onboarding costs
- Foster innovation by engaging young minds
- Improve long-term retention through early exposure

How Employers Can Get Involved

Whether you're interested in supporting an existing program like Wolverine Enterprise LLC or launching your own work-based learning experience, Ascend Indiana can help. We provide:

- Program design and implementation support
- School and CTE center connections
- Access to funding and workforce partners

Discover how Ascend Indiana can support your business in launching or expanding work-based learning opportunities at www.ascendindiana.com.



“Wolverine gives students experience in different fields and helps them decide what they’d like to pursue professionally.”



Michael Solliday, Wolverine Enterprises CEO, 2022-2023

