Wayne College, The University of Akron’s only regional branch campus, is an educational and cultural hub for Wayne County and the surrounding region. Student success is achieved through excellent teaching with an emphasis on individualized attention. We prepare our students for further educational pursuits, career success, and lifelong learning.

To achieve this mission Wayne College will:

- Provide affordable access to The University of Akron’s bachelor and master’s degree programs, technical associate degrees, and general education coursework;
- Contribute to the community’s lifelong learning landscape by offering both credit and non-credit opportunities;
- Remain the region’s open-access opportunity for students to complete developmental coursework to prepare for admission to The University of Akron;
- Provide programming on site at our beautiful Orrville campus, online, or at one of several satellite locations throughout Northern Ohio;
- Extend desirable programming and support services to the students served by our satellite locations in Millersburg, Medina, and Lakewood, and regional high schools through the College Credit Plus program.

Goal 1: Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support

- Expand current academic programming
  - Extend our academic program offerings to improve **evening, weekend, and online** options.
  - Add 11 **four year degrees**: International Business, Communication, Biology, Nursing, Criminal Justice, Psychology, Agritourism, Agribusiness, Bachelor of Technology and Applied Studies (BTAS), Exercise Science/concentration in Fitness Mgt., Early Childhood Inclusive Teacher Preparation Program.
  - Investigate and implement potential course offerings to assist students with completing their **foreign language** requirements on the Wayne campus.
  - Provide **developmental education** to traditional, non-traditional, and GED-seeking students.
  - Engage with **UA Solutions**:
    - Build corporate partnerships through credit and non-credit offerings.
    - Provide support for GED-seeking students.
  - Work with area career centers, OSU-ATI and other higher education partners to form **articulation agreements** that support the associate of technical studies degree among others.
● Enhance advising services and reach
  ○ Implement mandatory advising for students.
  ○ Engage students through alternative advising methods.
  ○ Develop a faculty advising/mentoring program.

● Improve and expand support services
  ○ Support Ohio Department of Education initiatives and promote college affordability for our students by forming a team comprising of faculty and support staff to promote the adoption of appropriate open textbooks / OER (open educational resources) for Wayne College sections and support the adoption and implementation of the open textbooks.
  ○ Investigate drop-in childcare.
  ○ Investigate transportation options between educational partners (ATI, Career Center, and Main Campus) and local communities.
  ○ Expand Adult Focus to support non-traditional and veteran students in successfully navigating the college experience.
  ○ Develop support services for international students (including ESL-English as a Second Language).

● Increase diversity opportunities and awareness
  ○ Increase climate awareness through diversity-focused programming.
  ○ Explore partnerships to support international travel/study abroad.

Goal 2: Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement

● Implement additional retention initiatives, including:
  ○ Add a mini Welcome to Wayne Day program for spring semesters.
  ○ Add additional focused new student orientations.
  ○ Develop retention plans for corporate partnerships.
  ○ Promote greater college credit plus retention through increased four year programs.
  ○ Expand evening and weekend support.
  ○ Require a career planning course for first year undecided students.

● Implement Associate Degree Completion Initiative
  ○ Operationalize the “Opt-out” associate degree so that students are automatically matched with an associate degree and have to decide to opt out of that degree.

Goal 3: Outreach: Community Wellbeing and Engagement

● Develop new recruitment initiatives
  ○ Create and implement a marketing plan to recruit adult (non-traditional) students.
Increase the numbers of transitional college credit plus students through earlier contact and focused programming (e.g. Marketing/Branding Improvements and student and faculty spotlight articles for social media).

- Increase opportunities for the community to engage with the college faculty, staff, students and campus
  - Improve existing programming to increase community involvement.
  - Develop new, relevant and frequent programming opportunities for the local community to participate in activities on campus and / or with Wayne College faculty, staff, and students.

- Develop new workforce development programming.

- Identify non-credit opportunities that would be ideal to offer at Wayne or at satellite locations.

- Increase visibility of Wayne College human resources available to the local community by encouraging community service participation by faculty, staff, and students, including reinstating the Roo Crew and establishing a Speakers Bureau.

Goal 4: Scholarship and Innovation

- Provide students opportunities for scholarship and innovation (e.g. Makerspace /3D Lab, Student Scholar Program, UA’s E[X]L program).

Goal 5: Institutional Effectiveness and Resource Stewardship

- Implement the Bridges to Campus Initiative, integrating the framework into our academic and academic support efforts.

- Formalize Continuous Improvement processes throughout the College:
  - Form a standing committee or team (WE: Wayne Excellence) to systematically evaluate and improve college-level and department-level processes.
  - Invest in ongoing training and resources to support the professional development of faculty, staff, and contract professionals in the areas of quality improvement.

- Update the Wayne College governance document to reflect desired organization and committee structure:
  - Ensure functioning shared governance at Wayne College by reviewing and updating the currently outdated Governance document, including areas of integration with the UA main campus departments and governance.
  - Develop a new organizational chart to reflect ideal structure at Wayne College and our relationship to the University.
• Improve the **physical plant and grounds** (facilities):
  ○ Maintain and improve walking trails and pond area (paths and decks).
  ○ Improve amphitheater and promote use.

• Identify additional **Fundraising** opportunities:
  ○ Raise additional funds for student scholarships.
  ○ Raise funds for capital projects.

• Increase **demographic reach** to students in NE Ohio:
  ○ Investigate feasibility and market potential of additional satellite locations.

• Increase **revenue**:
  ○ Leveraging unused land (e.g. agriculture, cell tower, wells).
  ○ Increase community awareness and use of available College rental opportunities.

Updated: 12/1/17