

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ohio Leaders Tour BGR to Explore Mentorship and Workforce Development

BGR Hosts Senator George Lang and Education Leaders for a Showcase of Its Adopt-A-Class Partnership

CINCINNATI, OH — May 12, 2025 — BGR, a leading national distributor of packaging supplies and equipment, welcomed Ohio Senator George Lang, Middletown Schools Superintendent Deborah Houser, Adopt-A-Class CEO Sonya Fultz, and Founder Bill Burwinkel to its West Chester facility on May 9 for a guided tour and community impact discussion. The visit provided a firsthand look at how BGR integrates mentorship and packaging expertise to deliver long-term value for students, employees, and the broader Ohio workforce.

As part of the State of Ohio's broader review of funding support for the Adopt-A-Class program, the delegation engaged with BGR team members, observed facility operations, and discussed how this nonprofit partnership prepares elementary school students for the future through hands-on exposure to careers, teamwork, and generosity.

"Programs like Adopt-A-Class don't just impact students—they energize our team and strengthen our community," said **Phil Schneider, CEO & President of BGR**. "It's one more way we deliver value that lasts beyond our day-to-day work—by investing in young people's futures."

Supporting Ohio's Future Workforce

Through Adopt-A-Class, BGR mentors three classrooms across Wildwood and Hartwell elementary schools. Five BGR employees are assigned to each classroom, delivering monthly sessions that introduce students to real-world roles in packaging and logistics, along with practical life skills and values-based activities—like BGR's annual food drive.

Students not only meet professionals and participate in interactive lessons, but also visit BGR's facility for an end-of-year field trip that brings their learning full circle.

"Being part of Adopt A Class helps me live out BGR's purpose and reminds me why what we do matters," shared a BGR team member. "It's not just for the students—it helps us grow as leaders and teammates," added a volunteer.

The visit served as a live example of how public-private partnerships can help schools connect with business, create a stronger talent pipeline, and instill purpose-driven leadership in company culture.

The Impact So Far

- 3 years of BGR participation
- 3 classrooms mentored annually
- 5 BGR team members assigned per class
- 100s of lives impacted across students, families, and teammates

Investing in Purpose and Potential

This initiative reflects BGR's broader purpose to Unpack Potential. Deliver Value. —not just for customers, but for communities and the next generation. If adopted, new state funding could help scale the Adopt-A-Class program to more companies across Ohio, multiplying its impact for students and industries alike.

LEARN MORE

To learn how Adopt-A-Class connects companies with classrooms, visit: aacmentors.org

ABOUT BGR

BGR is a national distributor of packaging supplies, automation equipment, and expert solutions for manufacturers, distributors, and e-commerce companies. With a reputation for performance and a purpose-driven culture, BGR delivers control, efficiency, and value across the packaging supply chain. Learn more at www.PackBGR.com

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