

Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education
January 16, 2008
CTE Resource Center

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Advisory Committee Members: Theresa Bryant, Johnny Cates, Sandy Hespe, Brenda Long, Mike Mills, Toney Rigali, Judy Sorrell, Ray Tate;

Guests: Emily Richardson; and

VDOE Representative: Elizabeth Russell.

UPDATES – Elizabeth Russell

Federal Review Visit: The Office of CTE had a federal review by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education for the first time in nineteen years. The exit interview gave an excellent report with few issues. The final report should be to Virginia sometime in May or June. The members of the Review Team visited the CTE Curriculum Resource Center, Richmond Technical Center, Hermitage Technical Center and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College (JSRCC). They were very complimentary of the programs at the two centers and discussed the importance of statewide uniformity in curriculum across community colleges at JSRCC as JSRCC had presented what they were doing to work with the area secondary schools. The Review team also felt that Virginia was extremely fortunate to have the CTE Resource Center and that it is a facility that every state should have.

State Plan Status: There will be four public hearings and advisory members should attend one if possible. The main focus of discussion is the request of the Virginia Community College System to change the local level split from the current 85% secondary and 15% postsecondary to a five year plan that moves the split ultimately to 60% secondary and 40% postsecondary. Advisory members indicated that this could seriously damage the quality of the secondary programs and that postsecondary had the option of charging tuition which the secondary school divisions could not do. They felt that it was very important to protect the current 85/15 split. The VCCS had indicated that if the funds were increased for the community college that they could be directed to placing more career coaches in the secondary schools. Several advisory members indicated they felt this was a duplication of effort since all schools have guidance counselors.

VCCS had also expressed the opinion that the State Board of Education was also not the appropriate custodians for the Perkins that it should be a Board that more adequately represented the community college.

Several advisory members indicated that the current collaboration between local school divisions and community colleges was working well and that should not be a change. They did feel that there needed to more standardization in what was required in a course/program from one community college to another.

If the Perkins funds were split differently, it would have a major impact on local programs as the Perkins funds creates leverage for local budget even though the range is from seven to twenty percent of the entire budget. Smaller schools would feel the deepest impact.

LEGISLATION – Dr. Brenda Long

Dr. Long updated the Advisory Committee on the following state legislation information.

- House Bill 197 – Advanced Technical Diploma has made it to the floor.
- The Governor’s budget requested \$2.3 million this year for equipment.
- CTE Resource Center is in the Governor’s budget.
- Industry Certifications are level-funded.
- Senate Bill 169 - Teacher Prep.
- House Bill 980 is on career coaches at the community colleges but it may be withdrawn. The person is hired outside the high school, some issues and some feel that it is more of a recruiter.
- Two related bills are HB494 for Match Funds in Engineering Technology Education and HB654 Teacher Grants for Masters in CTE.

REQUEST FROM GOVERNOR KAINE – Elizabeth Russell

Ms. Russell shared a copy of the Governor’s letter to the Board of Education requesting that all students have an Academic and Career Plan by 7th or 8th grade and that this requirement be included within the Standards of Accreditation. The Board of Education approved the request and this will go through the NOIRA and public hearing process. The web link to the Governor’s letter and the wording that has been sent forward is <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Accountability/soa.html>.

TECHNICAL DIPLOMA – Dr. Brenda Long

Dr. Long expressed concern that the current Technical Standard diploma requirements are not rigorous enough and that it simply shuffles credits and does not address foreign language.

VIRGINIA PTA – Elizabeth Russell

Ms. Russell shared with the Advisory Committee that the Virginia PTA/PTO passed a resolution at their state conference to support career and technical education, the career clusters/career pathways/plans of study initiative. They want to work with VDOE to develop a “tool kit” that can be utilized with parents and students at both the middle school and elementary levels to provide them with information on CTE.

VIRGINIA CAREER EDUCATION FOUNDATION (VCEF) – Dr. Emily Richardson

Dr. Richardson gave an update report on the Commonwealth Scholars program and the success that the eleven school divisions have had with this program and that it is expanding into other divisions. She also shared that the VCEF will be managing the Governor’s Exemplary Standards Program that is part of the National Governors Association grant and a part of the new Governor’s Career and Technical Academies.

MISSION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: - Mike Mills

Mr. Mills, as the incoming Chairman, reminded the members of their purpose and charge to advise the State Board of Education and the Virginia Department of Education, Office of Career and Technical Education on the CTE programs in Virginia. He indicated that he would be developing a Program of Work for the coming year and would be seeking their input over the summer.

ADJOURNMENT:

Members were reminded of the meeting in April and the meeting was adjourned.