

MEETING MINUTES
Virginia Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee
CTE Resource Center
2002 Bremo Road, Lower Level
Henrico VA 23226
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
January 20, 2016

Attendees:

Paul Willard, Morris Dews, Dr. Robert Mayfield, Brenda Long, Drexel Harris, Stewart Harris, Pamela Heath, Suzanne Mallory-Parker, Zuzana Steen, Jane Watkins, Paul Willard, Daniel Woodley, Jessica Sabbath, Hunter Bendall, and Ronnie Gill. Guest presenters: Hunter Bendall, and Jessica Sabbath Virginia Business Magazine. Sharon Acuff and George Willcox, VDOE Staff, and Jennie Blizzard, CTE Resource Center Staff.

Opening Remarks and Welcome—Daniel Woodley, Chair, CTE Advisory Committee

Mr. Woodley welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of October 29, 2015, Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, and the minutes were approved.

VDOE CTE Update—George Willcox, Coordinator for Planning, Administration, and Accountability

- The Department's Office of Career and Technical Education is participating in the development of the state's combined Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) along with other state agencies that provide workforce training programs. Virginia's combined WIOA state plan will include the Perkins Grant. The plan must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor by April 1, 2016.
- The Department has developed a comprehensive Web page that provides information about the state's CTE Advisory Committee. The site features the committee work and accomplishments including: (1) [Top Tips](#) for engaging local employers and strengthening CTE programs and recommendations for aligning secondary CTE programs with Virginia's labor market needs, (2) [The Top 15 Businesses in Virginia](#) by school division, region, and local workforce investment area, and (3) [CTE Local Advisory Committees](#) are the Key to Strong, Successful Business/Industry Partnerships.
- The Department will sponsor 32 CyberCamp across the Commonwealth summer 2016. Each location will receive \$62,500 to provide cybersecurity experience for students in grades X-X. The camps must be 70 hours and can be structured according to the school's flexibility.
- Sharon Acuff, Hunter Bendall, and Jessica Sabbath provided an update pertaining to the purpose, production and distribution of the *R U Ready Magazine*.
 - The magazine is shipped to high school guidance counselors to disseminate to 10th-grader students.
 - This year's magazine focused on apprenticeships and included a special military spotlight.

- **Advisory Committee Member Roundtable—Individual Members**
 - **Daniel Woodley**
 - Maintain communications with area community colleges and school divisions’ secondary CTE program opportunities.
 - The committee should explore ways to provide information about CTE to homeschoolers and other similar programs.
 - **Stewart Harris**
 - Thomas Nelson Community College partnering with New Horizons Technical Center to offer dual enrollment courses
 - Good relationship with the Aviation Academy
 - Business partnerships between school divisions, the community college and chamber of commerce are thriving
 - **Pamela Heath**
 - Described the state’s Innovation Work Group’s “Profile of a High School Graduate”
 - What does a Virginia graduate look like: Perhaps do away with “diplomas” and center on earning “badges” or “certifications” rooted in Career Clusters? Real-world is not a test score—have career “ladders” rather than “diplomas” that can be customizable based on interest and skill
 - Focus on all areas of growth/learning---not just test scores and academics
 - Challenges with securing quality/skilled teachers with the credentials to teach (restrictions due to teaching credentialing requirements)
 - Discussion about the importance of soft skills (e.g., teamwork, problem solving)
 - **Daniel Woodley** Qualifications are desirable to employers
 - Given equal qualifications: in-person behavior is a factor that drives hiring decisions
 - There are technical skills needed.
 - **Zuzana Steen**
 - Partnership with Northern Virginia Community College to offer dual enrollment in STEM-related careers
 - Working with Manassas City Public Schools for application for a Governor’s STEM Academy
 - **Robert Mayfield**
 - Spoke to 15 rotary clubs within three months about STEM. Businesses want to know what skills already exist in a community before they will come to it.
 - Invited 110 fourth-graders to visit the Tenaska plant.
 - In February, all middle school STEM teachers will be visiting the plant.
 - Businesses want to help. Schools need to come to businesses, instead of going to the school.
 - **Morris Dews**
 - Making contacts with schools to see how they promote CTE.
 - Teaching audience soft skills. Employers who hire don’t want to know what they’ve done in the past but can they work on a team and are willing to learn.
 - Convicted felons can get jobs but have to demonstrate technical and soft skills.
 - **Ronnie Gill**
 - CTE area has focused more on a regional concept (four or five divisions).
 - Technical center did a video to inform public about what goes on there.

- Drone technology is being explored for use in agriculture. It's something that CTE can get their arms around.
 - In Virginia Beach later this year, there will be an agricultural conference of 70 countries. One focus of the conference will be drones.
 - **Paul Willard**
 - Some rural areas still have dial-up capability for Internet services.
 - There are jobs that are hiring and firing.
 - CTE should be marketed to the school board. There seems to be a shift to CTE because so many necessary jobs are unfilled.
 - There are pay disparities in school divisions.
 - Educators have to change the way they teach as well as the way they learned.
 - **Daniel Woodley**
 - Motivated by elected officials' discussion about what CTE is. It is not free and has to be an investment.
- **Legislative Update—Dr. Brenda Long, Virginia ACTE Liaison**
 - The Virginia ACTE Professional Development Leadership Seminar starts Thursday, Jan. 21.
 - Developed five platform statements (Issues and Solutions document) for submission to the General Assembly.
 - CTE has been listed as a critical shortage area. Now listed in the governor's budget as a critical shortage area. Students can apply for the teaching loan in critical teaching shortage program areas.
 - The Governor's budget reflects a proposal increased for CTE equipment.
- **Summary Remarks—Daniel Woodley**
 - Creating Excellence Awards judging will take place April 7 at the CTE Resource Center. CTE Advisory Committee members are asked to help with the judging.
 - Great partnerships, even those that do not win, should be publicized.

Next Meetings:

April 21, 2016, at the CTE Resource Center

June 9, 2016, at the Hotel Richmond Airport

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.