

MEETING MINUTES

Virginia Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Richmond Airport Hotel
5501 Eubank Road
Sandston, Virginia 23150
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
June 9, 2016

Attendees: Tomeka Dowling, Ronnie Gill, Drexel Harris, Stewart Harris, Pamela Heath, Dr. Brenda Long, Suzanne Mallory-Parker, Robert Mayfield, Daniel Woodley, Lolita Hall, George Willcox, and Nathan Pope, CTE Resource Center.

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

Mr. Woodley welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. He signified that this is the annual meeting in conjunction with Creating Excellence awards ceremony. He stated that CTE is "more than a buzz" right now; elected officials are increasingly aware of it.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of April 21, 2016 Minutes

A motion was made and the minutes were approved.

Special Presentation—Dr. Robert Mayfield, Vice-Chair

Dr. Mayfield shared "Engineering Your Future," a STEM presentation he made recently to middle school students and parents. The presentation provided a history of general technology and examples of technology used today by the "i generation," (as in iPhone; not millennials). The presentation also included statistics about technology use today and looked at projections for the future. Dr. Mayfield shared with his middle-school audience his expectations for them: The issues and challenges they will address and solve when they get into workforce.

Dr. Mayfield noted that this is his final meeting after six years on the committee. He is appreciative for the experience, particularly because of all he has learned about CTE and STEM as a member of the committee. As a parent, he wishes he knew about CTE when his daughters were in school. He maintains that parents do not know enough about CTE and how it can help prepare students for college and can help lower costs (through dual enrollment, etc.). He stressed the importance of certifications to employers.

Advisory Committee Member Roundtable—Individual Members

Ronnie Gill: He recently met with Northern Neck Technical Center (NNTC) principal. Enrollment there has increased, despite the fact that their admissions process is very selective. The center has improved over the past few years. He shared the *Northern Neck Regional Technical Center Newsletter*, which describes all its programs.

Suzanne Mallory-Parker: She maintains that some students who struggle in other academic areas can excel in arts programs. She will soon be meeting with the Fine Arts specialist about collaboration between CTE and the fine arts (in Henrico, Hanover, Richmond City, Chesterfield); she hopes to include the Fine Arts Coalition. Ms. Mallory-Parker stresses the importance not only of STEM but also of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics). Lolita Hall pointed out that CTE is focused on career development and is not in competition with core areas or with fine arts and that CTE can help those students prepare for careers in fine arts, etc.

Tomeka Dowling: Ms. Dowling shared the recent finding that the third highest cause of death is medical error. She says health care programs need to look at how they are preparing health care workers. They must stress accountability to students, for example, self-reporting errors.

Daniel Woodley: Mr. Woodley attended two advisory committee meetings in Northern Virginia school divisions, and, in both, there were lengthy discussions of budgets. He sees a need for bringing in teachers who can address bilingual challenges and technology challenges. He also attended the ICSC (International Council of Shopping Centers) convention recently, where he heard about changes in retail technology that has affected taxi services, grocery delivery, and online purchasing, for example.

Pamela Heath: She says we need to keep in mind the goal of certifications and career development. Despite cuts, her division is expanding CTE: engineering, computer science; adding Agriscience; Teachers for Tomorrow. Many division graduates are going into post-secondary engineering programs. Her division is conducting STEM camps, and a team from her division won a HOSA competition with a stylus developed for occupational therapy.

Stewart Harris: Mr. Harris appreciates the business component of the committee. He struggles with communicating through the K–12 system (administration, parents, and students) to change the perception of CTE. He praised the shipbuilding apprenticeship program in Newport News. He also described a program at NASA Langley (HUTCH) that provides hands-on projects, where students design, build, and test hardware that is sent to the International Space Station. He shared that Hampton City Schools won a culinary contest, creating a menu that is sent to the space station. He spoke of a new dual-enrollment mechatronics program developed with local Hampton Roads school divisions. Mr. Harris also informed the committee of a machining program under development with a local partner to address the lack of skilled workers, a problem that is driving local companies to look to other states to find workers.

Drexel Harris: Mr. Harris spoke of initiatives at Dominion, including work with the Capital Region Collaborative to address education, job creation, and workforce preparation. Mr. Harris is leading the workforce preparation committee. He praised *R U Ready?* magazine but feels more work is needed to get the information/data to the right people. He says the magazine is a good resource to find out where the jobs are and what industries are hiring. His committee will address where the jobs are, barriers to becoming prepared for those jobs, and how to address those barriers. Mr. Harris also noted that Dominion is working with Alexandria City Schools to develop a workforce development program.

CTE Update—George Willcox, Coordinator

Mr. Willcox provided a summary of funding allocations resulting from the 2016 General Assembly.

Mr. Willcox provided some data gathered by the Weldon Cooper Center related to the demand for cosmetologists and barbers in northern Virginia. Weldon Cooper is now gathering similar data for *all* areas of Virginia.

- 7,361 cosmetologists and barbers were employed in northern Virginia in 2012; 8,219 are projected to be employed in 2022

Mr. Willcox announced that the VDOE's Office of CTE is attempting to fill vacant positions.

Public Policy Update—Dr. Brenda Long, Virginia ACTE Liaison

Dr. Long reported that Virginia ACTE is already preparing for the 2017 General Assembly session. "Issues and Solutions" and the CTE fact sheet documents are being developed.

She stressed the importance of business community members promoting CTE to their representatives in the General Assembly. Virginia ACTE will continue to market CTE and to monitor policy decisions.

Dr. Long reiterated that CTE provides opportunities for all students. She noted that more integration and collaboration with other areas across the board (academics, STEM) is needed.

Virginia ACTE is developing public policy initiatives and will be asking for feedback soon.

Summary Remarks

Office of Career and Technical Education Services—Lolita Hall, Director

Ms. Hall thanked the committee for their participation and enthusiasm this year. She noted that challenges ahead will create opportunities to move CTE forward. One of those challenges will be making CTE more inclusive for all students, which in turn will prepare them to become life-long learners and to earn a good living.

CTE Advisory Committee—Daniel Woodley, Chair

Mr. Woodley thanked the VDOE staff for their work this year. He would like to see more speakers come to meetings (e.g. Cybersecurity) next year and encouraged members to bring members of their local communities to speak to the committee. He closed the meeting by wishing everyone a restful summer.

Adjournment

Next meeting:

October 20, 2016, CTE Resource Center, Henrico