

## Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee Notes

**October 13, 2022**

P	Bechtel, Matt	P	Franklin, Todd	A	Phillips, Adam
P	Berry, Paul	P	Garant, Jay	A	Portillo-Gomez, Manny
P	Blake, Sarah	A	Gonzalez, Juan Pablo	P	Raj, Anitha
A	Bolles, Thomas	A	Hopkins, Barbara	A	Sanghera, Kammy
P	Chappell, Eliza	P	Krezel, Alexa	P	Siddhi, Saanvi
A	Crispino, Lauren	P	Lewis, Mary	P	Smith, Shonna
A	Duke, Jodi	P	Lima-Whitney, Alice	P	Thieberger, Paul
A	Evans, Craig	A	Minton-Eversole, Theresa	P	Varkonyi, Irvin
P	Frank, Andrew	P	Parker, Joseph	P	Williams, Wendy

\*A = Absent P = Present

The regular meeting of the Fairfax County School Board's Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee (CTEAC) was called to order on October 13, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. by Alexa Krezel, Chairman. The meeting was held in room 1002A/B of 8270 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031. The option to attend virtually was made available via Zoom.

### Call to Order and Opening Remarks – Alexa Krezel

November meeting will take place in-person at Edison Academy. Members will be able to take a tour and learn about CTE programs available at Edison. No virtual option will be available next month.

### FCPS Superintendent – Dr. Reid

Dr. Reid went over her experience and knowledge regarding CTE programs in previous role and where she believes CTEAC should look into for upcoming years.

- CTE is important and evolving and sometimes programs do not change fast enough to keep up with industry changes.
- An opportunity would be to look at the airline industry
  - 50,000 pilots and air traffic controllers are needed in the next 9-10 years
- Tactical strategy and have a thinking forward strategy
  - 65% of K-12 students across the country are preparing for a career that no longer exist anymore
  - What is out there that we're not thinking about today and how can we present it ways we haven't.
- Feedback by Jay Garant: Jay went over some positive and challenges CTEAC has faced throughout the past few years.

- CTEAC has been focused on workforce development for several years and the committee did a great job at future planning.
- Workforce Development Progress:
  - FCPS has approximately 67-68 thousand students in CTE classes that can earn a credit for an internship or meet graduation requirements by participating in a high-quality work-based learning experience but that takes someone managing and making those connections.
  - The CTE Office currently has 2 Work-Based Specialist working centrally to work with schools to make all those connections. They assist with making connections with business industries, opportunities, and students. Both positions are currently grant funded through Perkins and a priority is to maintain those position since the grant is coming to and end.
- CTEAC also focused on supply chain management a few years ago however some challenges faced was there wasn't much interest at the time and creating a new course takes a while.
- Feedback by Irvin Varkonyi: Irvin iterated the challenges with creating new courses and challenges finding the building space to hold those new courses.
- Question by Saanvi Siddhi: What courses would you like to see student enroll during their junior and senior year. Or would you like students to get exposure during their freshman and sophomore year.
  - Dr. Reid mentioned middle school is good exploration years. She doesn't think there is a particular focus for junior or senior years. Middle school should be the time where students can explore possible options for high school.
  - Dr. Reid is looking into schedules to see if that also is a driving forced on what courses student can take.

#### **School Board Update – Melanie Meren**

- Dr. Reid is leading the division strategic focus plan. Current plan has been sidelined by COVID but they're hoping get feedback and input to help develop the new one.
- Stay tuned regarding Outdoor Education, more information will follow.
- After school programs in middle schools – we have an afterschool program partnered and funded by Fairfax County. Provides no cost after school programing for all middle schoolers.
- Please remember to vote on November 8, 2022.

#### **Workstreams: Early Engagement CTE – Wendy Williams**

Coming out of the Innovate Conference this year as one example there is increased awareness that it is important to plant the seed early on the value of engaging in CTE, particularly in trade and industry fields.

This subcommittee should focus on recommendations to the school board focused on early engagement. The scope of this subcommittee work will be to examine from the moment that

elementary students are exposed to elective options for middle school through 9th grade course selection and should include recommendations to parents and students experience and program offerings.

Middle School Connections: Community communication along with middle schoolers

- Elements
  - Instructional
  - Managerial
  - Communication
- Focused Audience
  - Community/Businesses
    - Partnerships at MS level
    - Companies focused on HS and College level – what about MS focused involvement
    - Companies' offerings today are based on limited outreach right now – more those who approach “us” are making connections
    - Community outreach
    - Partnership with NOVA
    - Associations
- Parents
  - MS is the place to start grooming students for career/college pathway
  - Course planning with CTEA courses being electives – informed choices with elective options
  - Recommendation to partner with PTA-service to schools for afterschool activities
- Students
  - Career Awareness - emphasis on connections between programs offered and career pathways
  - After school programs – try different things
  - Capital One with Coder's Program
  - Create our own engineering – Project Based Learning and wrap around the communications with it
  - Pathways Discussions
  - Already have a model with Summer Programs – how to adapt them to After school programs?
    - Action: Subcommittee requesting information about the current MS afterschool program offerings. Offerings/school/attendance/who runs (volunteers/staff)
    - MS afterschool program how to integrate a “business leader” into the program
- Schools
  - Managing MS expectations of information – pathway discussions lead to earlier addressing strategic element towards graduation/career choices
  - Virtual Connection with HS
  - Field Trips to Schools with trade curriculum (i.e., Edison) – seeing is believing...
  - School Career Councilors

**Workstreams: Special Education, Economically Disadvantaged, and English for Speakers of Other Languages – Alexa Krezel**

Students identified as needing special education, economically disadvantaged or ESL students experience a higher percentage of dropouts under the College and Career Readiness metric.

There is an access problem for some of these students in these categories due to the need to complete other courses in order to meet graduation requirements, leaving students unable to fit CTE courses in their schedule as part of their electives.

This subcommittee should focus on recommendations to the school board to address the specific needs of these populations as it relates to CTE which may also serve to enhance the student experience and promote higher graduation rates.

- The subcommittee outlined the following areas as sources for recommendations:
  - Review of policies - are they helping or hindering the experience of the students
  - Individual Education Plan (IEP) explore how this can become a more meaningful tool and be workforce driven
  - Infusing CTE in support services like Tutor.com
  - Identifying specific goals for the groups on achievement
  - Accessibility of After School programs to specialized populations

**Attendance Notes:**

Shawn Addison – Filled in Barbara Hopkins (NOVA)

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** November 10, 2022, 8:30 a.m. **Edison Academy – IN PERSON MEETING ONLY**

**Mission Statement:** To provide advice to the school administration and the School Board on career and technical education programs and initiatives for the purpose of improving the effectiveness of these programs and associated courses in providing students with the knowledge and skills that contribute to their preparation for the workforce, military, and/or continuing education in a competitive global economy, and to help the schools obtain support and participation from the business community and the public.

**Committee Charge:** In collaboration with key stakeholders, ensure equitable awareness, access, and participation in all CTE programs. Ensure greater awareness of career-readiness options provided by CTE programs with a new emphasis on exposure to working in a virtual or hybrid workplace, workforce trends, and growing leadership skills.

*Issues related to Career and Technical Education should be submitted in writing to the executive council for consideration as future agenda items.*