

MICHIGAN WORKS! WEST CENTRAL
CAREER & EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEAC)
MICHIGAN WORKS! WORKFORCE SERVICE CENTER, BIG RAPIDS
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

MINUTES

Members Present

Bennett, Merri
Christmas, Christy
Eppley, Jonathan
Gaines, Tamera
Gandhi, Nicholas
Horowski, Dale
Miller, Mike
Pelton, Chris
Sanchez, Tracy
Spedowske, Gretchen
Stakley, Deedee (via conference phone)
Tomaski, Melanie

Members Absent

Gibbs, Ken
Kratz, Bill
Marek, Ron
Wininger, Lisa
Wirick, Amy

Michigan Works! West Central Staff

Davis, Toni Keene, Shelly Shoemaker, Connie

Call to Order

The meeting for the Career & Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) was brought to order by Chair Mike Miller at Michigan Works! Workforce Service Center, 14330 Northland Drive, Big Rapids at 11:06 a.m. A quorum is present.

Welcome and Introductions

Members and staff were welcomed and introduced.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2019 – Mailed Prior – Handout

Jonathan Eppley moved to accept the CEAC October 8, 2019 minutes as written; supported by Gretchen Spedowske; motion accepted unanimously. 11:08 a.m.

◇ Action Items from the October 8, 2019 CEAC Meeting – Handout

Jonathan Eppley moved to approve the Action Items from the October 8, 2019 CEAC Meeting as printed; supported by Tracy Sanchez; motion accepted unanimously.

MiCareer Quest Follow up discussion

Jonathan Eppley informed the CEAC that Michigan Works! West Central held the first-ever MiCareer Quest event on Thursday, March 5 at the Ewigleben Sports Complex at Ferris State University. We had 1,304 students from 18 different schools in six counties attend, to take part in career exploration with 36 different employers and training providers. It was an exciting day and we have received nothing but good feedback from the schools, exhibitors and volunteers. We currently are conducting several surveys to gather further feedback to improve next year's event.

Tamera Gaines was one of the volunteers at the check in desk and things went very well. "Great Job."

Merri Bennett said they will be offering gift certificates to the students who fill out the survey. This is an incentive to get them to complete and send in.

Shelly thanked all the volunteers and sponsors, it could not have been done without all this support.

Dale Horowski said the principals were all very interested in the concept and wish to participate.

Perkins Grant Application – Handout

The Perkins legislation contains multiple Core Performance Indicators (CPIs), several of which are tied to State Assessments that the local districts and ISDs use to assess their students in math,

reading, and science. The three ISDs in our CEAC use the Perkins Grant funds to partially pay for the para-educators who work one-on-one with students.

Tamera Gaines suggested inviting some of her associates to come to the CEAC meeting to help answer questions and provide an update on the Career Pathway Grant for Perkins which is the process by which state standards for CTE programs will be reviewed and updated in accordance with Perkins V legislative requirements. This was well accepted.

Chris Pelton moved to support the CTE Perkins Plan as presented; supported by Jonathan Eppley; motion accepted unanimously. 11:28 a.m.

CTE Program Updates

Gretchen Spedowske said NC RESA is having a job fair tomorrow, March 11, 2020.

Dale Horowski said they are working to rename “soft skills” to “professional skills.” When students hear soft skills it appears these are not very important but indeed they are. So by suggesting they are needed for their professional development, it has made a difference.

Mike Miller reported that MOISD had a Career Fair a couple weeks ago and had 60 employers attend. This was very exciting and many students were able to talk with the employers to help with their career choices.

MOISD is having an annual Open House and all the CEAC are invited. This is March 24, 2020 from 5:00 to 7:00p.m.

There is also an annual Spring Advisory Dinner when the culinary class will serve prime rib April 9, 2020 at 6:00. Please RSVP to be sure you have your prime rib reserved.

11:30 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. Council broke for lunch.

NOTE: Deedee Stakley left meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Employer Lead Collaborative Grant Update

Merri Bennett explained that as part of our grant for \$87,000 from the state we have to place a certain number of job seekers in healthcare related careers. So she is working with the Talent Specialists to track this information and report it in the quarterly reports. We are being successful in recruiting more healthcare employers to be part of the collaborative, but due to the rural nature of the six counties it is challenging to get everyone together, so we are working on some call-in options. We also need an employer champion in healthcare who would be willing to help us spread the message.

MiSTEM Updates

Merri Bennett explained that Michigan, together with business, education and community partners, is embarking on a journey to create a MiSTEM Network throughout the state. The MiSTEM Network focuses on four pillars: create a STEM culture, empower STEM teachers, integrate business and education and ensure high quality STEM experiences. The work of the MiSTEM Network is to build on existing STEM networks to create a STEM ecosystem that supports and implements the components outlined in the four pillars. With Kathy Surd retiring MiSTEM West Central (Region 9) has a new Director, Lisa Wininger. She participated in the MiCareer Quest event. She used to work for NASA so had an interactive hands-on flight simulator for students to use.

Region 9 serves Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Oceana, Osceola and Wexford counties. Since all the counties are not in our region, we will work in conjunction with Northwest Michigan Works! to try to help them meet their goals.

Other Business

Round the Table

- » Sanchez, Tracy – Fremont Public Schools – we are expanding the Adult Ed offerings to the Newaygo County Michigan Works! Center.
- » Davis, Toni – Michigan Works! WIOA – we have received funding for Youth Work Experience.
- » Gaines, Tamera – Talent Investment Agency – continuing to work with Merri on the Employer Lead Collaborative Grant.
- » Bennett, Merri – Michigan Works! West Central – looks like the Going PRO Talent Fund may happen and the Going PRO Apprenticeship Talent Grant year-round has been approved.
- » Tomanski, Melanie – Ludington Area Schools – offering Work Experience and virtual learners. They capped enrollment at 40 students. They were hoping when they began that a good number would be 12 to 20 but students far exceeded the projection of needs.
- » Christmas, Christy – WSCC – West Shore has a couple open positions; offering a new EMT program in the fall and Game Design and Animation. Purchased a new building in Manistee.
- » Spedowske, Gretchen – NC RESA – CTE Showcase coming up April 29th and have started enrollment for next year.
- » Pelton, Chris – Union #174 – numbers are down for a couple classes and they are working to correct that. Trying to get out to some career fairs letting kids know we're there.
- » Gandhi, Nicholas – Labor Market Information (DTMB) – apprenticeship report coming up, can scroll through by county or demographics.

» Keene, Shelly – Michigan Works! West Central – again thanked everyone for helping with the MiCareer Quest.

Next Meeting June 9, 2020 location TBD

The next meeting will be held at NC RESA RCASCA Center, 5479 West 72nd Street, Fremont 49412 in room 118.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.