



CAREER CONNECTIONS GROUP

September 10, 2009

Orrin E. Bailey, Secretary

Members:	Present:	Excused:
Ms. Carol Barbacovi-Muscoe	X	
Mr. Paul Bonsall		X
Mr. Tony Ebli	X	
Mr. Larry Godwin	X	
Mr. Chuck Guay	X	
Mr. Andy Hongisto	X	
Ms. Laurie Kaufman	X	
Dr. Paul Lang		X
Ms. Gina Lindquist	X	
Ms. Robyn Loviska		X
Mr. Don Mourand	X	
Ms. Johanna Ostwald	X	
Dr. Steve Piereson	X	
Mr. Steve Pontbriand		X
Mr. Michael Powers		X
Mr. Tony Retaskie	X	
Ms. Jenny Short	X	
Mr. Darlene Smith	X	
Mr. Tom Sparacino		X
Ms. Sheila Veraghen	X	
Ms. Judy Watson-Olson	X	
Mr. Alan Yeck		X

I. Call to Order

Co-Chair D. Mourand called meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

A quorum was present.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda with no additions or corrections; motion is seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. Reading, Correction and Action on Minutes

Motion to accept the June 11, 2009 minutes is made; motion is supported and passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

a. Marketing and Advocacy Work Group

T. Retaskie reported for this work group. The goal of this workgroup is to advocate to our

legislature the value of CTE courses, not to negate the importance of rigor within the Michigan Merit Curriculum but also to focus on the importance of relevance in the learning process. Representatives from the Career Connections Group met with members of the Regional Industrial Manufacturing Skills Alliance to develop a white paper regarding the need to ensure that our manufacturing base has an adequate supply of workers in the pipeline to maintain and grow their economic viability to our community. The white paper speaks to the need of continuing career and technical education courses that support on-hands learning opportunities for students and prepares them with the occupational skills sets needed to succeed, not only in the manufacturing environment, but the construction trades and healthcare.. The UPRIMSA took the white paper to the Job Force Board for endorsement. The Job Force Board has asked the Strategic Planning Committee to take the lead in gathering support for the white paper. S. Piereson will take resolution to the Region One Superintendent's Roundtable for support. T. Retaskie was asked to present the white paper at the Upper Peninsula Legislative Education Summit at the end of the month.

Since the white paper was written, there have been additional bills proposed to include allowing a state certified CTE course (if math content is met) to count towards Algebra II; another bill modified the personal curriculum. Members reported that approximately 95.2% of CTE students go on to post secondary and that includes a 25% of the special population. Workgroup will continue working with advocacy issues and sharing information as new legislative information becomes available.

b. Education Work Group/Career Pathways Workgroup

Both workgroups are working on a survey to be released to the school as to what type of Educational Development Plans are being used and whether we can track data to determine who is in the pipeline. Committee members reviewed a draft survey to be released through email and were asked to provide comments by September 21st. The survey will be released in October/November to regional school districts.

T. Ebli is gathering regional data for the report card. To further explain the report card, members felt that educating the community as to the post secondary success rate of students enrolled in CTE would draw attention to its value. Action steps include: collection of CTE events and activities; developing survey to schools to identify career prep activities; work to educate our education partners that education is not separate from the workforce development system and work within our own membership to build the understanding of the roles and responsibilities of members. Members were reminded of some of the measureable outcomes the committees are looking at in addition to the publication of the Report Card to the Community that would be published and distributed.

VI. New Business

VII. Adjourn