

ROLE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Advisory committee members can help design and update the training of the future employees. Their input will help teachers understand and meet the needs of the workplace. Committee members can share the excitement of introducing new technology and ideas to future workers, managers, or professionals who will shape the future of the industry. They will also benefit from contact with peers in the industry, hear their viewpoints on issues, and learn about their experiences in today's fast-paced technological world. Their involvement also helps strengthen the school's tie with business, industry, labor, and governmental organizations.

Advisory committees for an established and ongoing Career & Technology program will help set goals and objectives for the committee's involvement each year. What these objectives are will depend upon the specific condition of the program's curriculum, recruitment, enrollment, retention, and placement, as well as on the school's goals of the year.

Some of the key areas in which advisory committees become involved include the following:

- **Keeping Curriculum Relevant.** Reviewing and critiquing instructional materials is critical in keeping Career & Technology courses up-to-date with the changing technology.
- **Keeping Equipment & Facilities Up –To-Date.** State-of-the-art equipment and facilities are of critical importance to quality Career & Technology education. Participation of advisory committees will provide the school with an important source for advice in this area.
- **Securing employment for Students.** Advisory committee members can identify sources of jobs available to students involved in career preparation co-op programs, work-study agreements, internships, shadowing programs, and graduates of the program.
- **Recommending Resources for instruction.** Advisory committee members can assist the school in obtaining instructional resources, which are relevant to the workplace.
- **Promoting Community Support.** Advisory committee members can acquaint other people with the student and employer opportunities available through the Career & Technology program. Committee members can also influence local, state, and national legislative issues, which support the Career & Technology programs. Members may also want to become involved with student youth organizations.

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