

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee
Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Wednesday, April 21, 2021
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

520 Fifth Avenue
School District Administrative Center

MEETING NOTES

A. Welcome and Introductions

1. CTE Director, Joni Simpson called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm at the FNSBSD Administrative Center, 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99701. The meeting took place by Zoom.
2. Joni recognized Daniel Domke's retirement on January 31, 2021, leading her to accept the CTE Director position in February. Joni also acknowledged our incredible CTE teachers and counselors in the district.

Committee Members Present:

Joni Simpson, CTE Director
Timothy Doran, School Board Representative
Melissa Sawchuk, FEA Representative
Jacob Dawley, Student Representative

Dawn Fitzpatrick, Parent
Andrea Gelvin, Gelvin Professional Training
Karen Lapp, Foundation Health
Cathy Winfree, UAF/CTC Faculty

Committee Members Absent:

Robyn Taylor, FPA Representative
Annie Baker, ESSA Representative
Dawn Murphy, Explore Fairbanks
Jim Dodson, Fairbanks Economic Dev. Corp.
Missy Lizotte, Department of Labor

Chad Hutchinson, Fairbanks Pipeline
Training Center
Keith Swarner, UAF/CTC Representative
Rodney Wolcott, Plumbers & Pipefitter
Local 375

Invited Guests Present:

Erin Edenshaw, Fairbanks Native Association
Derek Coryell, Exec. Dir. of Special Education
Virva Elliott, English Language Learner Director
Bruce Bell, Principal, Ben Eielson Jr/Sr High

Laurie Trotta, Migrant Education Program
Director
Andrea Wade, NPH Counselor

Staff Present:

Julie Luddington, CTE Technician

Mrs. Joni Simpson shared the following information with committee members:

B. Current State of CTE in the District

1. Pathways are growing in each high school. In accordance with Perkins V, all pathways must end with industry-recognized credentials. Students can earn certifications in a short time frame.
2. Our district pathways include:
 - Healthcare
 - Auto
 - Welding
 - Culinary Arts
 - Arts, AV
 - Hutchison's Stream Team is a state-recognized program.
 - Engineering
 - West Valley added Aviation this year. We will continue to expand the pathway.
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 - The School Board approved the Aviation program after two readings with great input from the community. Aviation has many careers available, and our community is extremely excited about this new program.

C. CTE and COVID 19

1. The CTE department worked with teachers to find online certification programs quickly, so there would be little gap in CTE learning.
2. Onshape® a cloud-based CAD platform saved our Engineering and Drafting programs this year. The company offered its services free nationwide for the 2020-2021 school year.
3. We purchased the necessary PPE for all shops.
 - Fire Retardant Masks
 - New welding helmets – one for each student.
 - Welding aprons – one for each student.
4. Introduction to Trades classes be offsite after the school year ends. Due to the closure of the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center during the pandemic, the program, which normally runs two days per week, January through May, will be condensed into an intensive two-week program running May 17-28, 2021 from 8 am – 5 pm. Not holding these classes has impacted the local unions. They are not making their selections for apprenticeships until after the classes are completed. Introduction to Trades classes are:
 - Building Trades
 - Electrical Academy
 - Heavy Equipment Operators
 - Laborers Training
 - Process Technology
 - Welding Academy

5. The CNA program will also be held after the end of the school year, May 17 – June. The class will be held at UAF Community and Technical College. The CNA program is funded by our Perkins grant.
6. We recognize that both of these programs are extremely valuable to our students, parents, and the Fairbanks community. These programs teach our students real-life experiences in the industries.

D. Perkins V Updates

1. The Perkins V grant had a major shift in how the grant is written. The biggest change was the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA). We looked at three years of data.
 - Performance
 - Quality
 - CTEPS
 - Recruitment
 - Equity and Access
 - We need to have an ongoing effort of being intentional with Equity and Access.
2. Next steps –
 - Adding middle school programs that align with high school programs.
 - CTE hired former Lathrop engineering teacher, Larry Ehnert to design and implement Makerspace programs at the middle school level aligning with both high school and UAF Makerspace programs.
 - Hospitality & Tourism is the 2nd largest industry in Fairbanks. There is a short trajectory to high-wage jobs in the industry. We will be looking into internships for students.

E. Summer CTE Opportunities

1. CTE in conjunction with the Special Education Department will be holding a summer Building Trades class taught by Hutchison High school teacher, Steve Ratzlaff. The class will be held June 1-25, 2021.

F. Non-Traditional Occupations Grant

1. Perkins V data showed us that we have to do things differently. We have a low female count in Engineering and IT. Females involved in programs specifically for females show more confidence. This year we have two after-school programs at the middle school level.
 - Tanana is teaching a Pre-Engineering cohort.
 - Ryan is teaching a Drone cohort – students will be building and flying drones.

G. Professional Development Grant

1. Joni instructed *Building and Strengthening CTE Knowledge, Pedagogy, and Implementation of Best Practices* for fifty-two educators from around the state.

The course will increase teachers' and counselors' working knowledge of CTE, career counseling, and Perkins. Participants in this three-credit course will take a comprehensive look at the five parts of Perkins V and how it impacts program development and teaching and counseling. Students will be required to complete a project that will reflect their knowledge presented in the course and be beneficial to their professional position.

H. FAA Grant

1. Demand is high for all aviation careers. West Valley started a Private Pilot aviation class this year. The class is currently a part of the Engineering Pathway, however, we plan to expand the program and create an Aviation Pathway.

I. Project Lead the Way Grant

1. \$10,000.00 grant for each high school interested in developing a Cybersecurity program. Surveying schools for interest in order to apply for the grant.

J. Future Visions for CTE in the District

1. Create a CTE Leadership team. One person from each cluster to communicate and build partnerships with local industry. The Leadership Team members will share information between their clusters and industry partners, to build the bridge between high school curriculum and industry needs. In order to expand, we must work together with our business partners to help each other and our community.
2. Creating and implementing a consistent message and marketing plan for CTE programs. This will help students and parents understand CTE pathways and increase retention and performance rates of existing students in order to create and sustain strong ongoing enrollment in CTE classes. We are working with Mark Perna Consulting and using TFS Career Trees.

K. Closing Comments

1. Andrea Gelvin discussed the Health Care pathway
 - HOSA is working with business partners, Foundation Health and CTC. Thanks to Karen Lapp.
 - Joni gave a "shout out" to West Valley HOSA students for volunteering at COVID Vaccination Clinics, taking the skills learned in their health care classes, and using them in a real-world environment.
2. Karen Lapp relayed the message that healthcare will continue to grow in our district and community. Foundation health received a \$3,000,000,000 grant to focus on secondary education.
3. Melissa Sawchuk stated her concern about keeping highly qualified teachers in CTE positions. In thinking about recruiting and retention, she thought it would be nice to see if our students are moving to our business partners after graduation and look at recruiting FNSBSD alumni.
4. Andrea Gelvin shared information about the AOPA aviation free curriculum. Due to COVID, the training is held through Zoom. This curriculum could be used to implement Aviation programs at other schools but would need the commitment of a teacher and the principal.
5. Bruce Bell shared that Ben Eielson was working on relationships with the Air Force and Air Guard communities. He hopes to get base internships back up and running soon.
6. Melissa asked about the possibility of CTE using its own curriculum which would be beneficial in credit recovery for CTE classes.
 - Joni shared that there is a teacher-developed online class in Alaska that anyone can take, statewide. There is also an appetite from legislators to expand this program.
 - AVTEC has a Boat Captain class taught completely using virtual reality. They are also expanding to healthcare due to the pandemic.
7. Erin Edenshaw shared that the Fairbanks Native Association Allied health program has expanded to include any certificate program that UAF/CTC offers.
8. Virva Elliott recommended strengthening the Hospitality and Tourism pathway in the future, possibly adding a Tour Guide course.

L. Adjournment

Mrs. Simpson concluded the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Submitted by Julie Luddington, CTE Technician