

Bellflower Unified School District
Career Technical Education
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023

PRESENT:

Ena Alcaraz	Babak Aminitehrani	Dave Arellano
Gil Castañeda Jr.	Yolanda Castro	Richard Downing
Nate Drown	Melissa Ellis	Alan Gregory
Jasmine Lane	Amanda McAndrew	Joe Mulleary
Victor Palacios	Ariel Pe	Nick Santos
Monica Saucedo	Laurens Strobbe	Mario Vargas
Ben Drati	Bonnie Carter	Lisa Azevedo
Lisa Swearingen		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by Lisa Azevedo. The meeting was held at the Bellflower Unified School District Board Room.

II. WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

Members present introduced themselves by sharing their partnership.

III. COMMITTEE FUNCTION OVERVIEW

Mrs. Azevedo reviewed the importance of this committee working together with BUSD, CalAPS and our industry partners. This partnership helps with a smooth transition into the workforce or to college.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF CTE ADVISORY MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Azevedo reviewed the acceptance form. Members were encouraged to sign the acceptance form and turn in to either Lisa Azevedo or Lisa Sweringen. CTE Advisory Committee Members will then be board listed. Mr. Drown inquired if there was a minimum amount of meetings this committee would have during the school year. There is a minimum of one meeting per year however the committee does typically meet twice, once in the Fall and once in the Spring.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 15, 2023

Colleen McKinley made a motion to approve the minutes. Nate Drown seconded.

VI. 2023-24 CTE PROGRAM UPDATES

a. Funding Allocations
For the 2023-24 school year, we will be receiving \$135,039.00 in our Perkins grant.

For the 2022-23 school year, we received \$911,120.00. Lisa Azevedo is currently in the process of completing the grant application.

Mr. Drown inquired if both funding allocation need to be spent by a certain date? Yes, both funding allocation must be spent by the dates on the RFA.

b. Facilities & Pathways Update

The STEAM Building at Mayfair Middle/High School is open. We are hoping to schedule a visit during our next CTE meeting.

The BioAnimaker lab and virtual reality ZSpace lab is also open in the STEAM building. A google survey was recently sent out to all MHS teachers if they would like to be trained to use either lab. We want to create a shared space where any subject can utilize these labs.

We are currently working on opening a Freight Farm 40 x 8 hydroponics unit. This area will work with students and provide farm fresh items to our Nutritional Services Department.

For the 2023-24 school year, we have opened an Aviation Pathway through a special grant. This pathway is located at BHS. Students have two different options through this pathway: private pilot and can earn a license within two years or they can become a drone certified professional.

Currently working on getting our Marketing Sales and Services course up and running at MHS this school year.

Two Switch vehicles have arrived at BHS in the Auto Shop classroom. While the frames are there, students can now build and take apart these electric vehicles.

Two Anatomage tables arrived this week at BHS and MHS. These are lifesize virtual reality 3D dissection tables. These tables will be used in our patient care pathways. Like the BioAnimaker and ZSpace labs, we are hoping to open up to our science classes.

VII. DISTRIBUTE DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (CLNA)

Mrs. Azevedo shared a draft copy of the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment Plan. Staff will also share a computerized version tomorrow with committee members. Members are encouraged to review and email Lisa Azevedo with any questions, comments, or feedback by Friday, September 22, 2023.

VIII. DR. DRATI, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Ben Drati welcomed committee members and provided a brief background on himself. Dr. Drati is embarking on a Listening Tour and is hoping to reach 2,000 people so he can create a Strategic Plan for BUSD.

Dr. Drati shared the 21-24 draft strategic plan that included sections on equity, achievement and community. Committee members added their comments, concerns, etc under each section.

Project based approach learning was further explained. Students learn better when they are able to touch, feel and understand context. Dr. Drati shared a handout on social justice standards he is hoping to bring to BUSD. When this is included in teaching/learning, it leads to project based learning.

Committee member input: need to gather better and more resources to support career pathways. Need more time learning about various resources to meet our objectives that are listed in the community statement.

Committee member input: would like to expose students to more nonprofit organizations within our community. Rotary Club is an example. There is a large gap and students feel that nonprofits are for retirees or older people.

Committee member input: look into how to train and participate in more paid internships to help our students prepare for the workforce.

Committee member input: under achievement, how will staff be able to measure improvement? Dr. Drati has a theory of action where staff will be working in teams to review data. It is up to staff to be very clear on expectations, create a framework and then gather input.

Committee member input: under equity, equal access to quality courses. This looks different from core academics to CTE courses. The values should be more transparent. For example four-year universities versus community colleges. Spending all resources on pushing students towards four-year universities when only 40% end up attending. Access to all resources across the district should be reviewed. Dr. Drati shared that this is the kind of review and possible change he is looking into during his Listening Tour. Policy could be reviewed and updated so students could take a course at another high school in the district.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE - MARCH 13, 2024 (POSSIBLE SITE BUS TOUR)
The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.