

CTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

November 20, 2024

Welcome/Call to Order 3:05 pm

Roll Call

Committee Members Present

Andrea Wade, CTE Director

Sarah Gillam, Asst. Superintendent

Dave Dershin, FPA Representative

Peter Daley, FEA Representative

Tara Devaughn, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator (Parent)

Amy Schumacher, Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center

Melissa Sawchuk, UAF Allied Health

Karen Lapp, Foundation Health

Rodney Wolcott, Local 375 Plumbers & Pipefitters

Juanita Webb, Explore Fairbanks

Keith Swarner, UAF/CTC Faculty

Chelsea Taylor, McKinney Vento/Foster Care

Shaheena Shahid, ELL Coordinator/Director

Andrea Gelvin, Gelvin Professional Training/HOSA

Mark Pliska, Alaska West

Michelle Spillane, UAF Upward Bound Program

Committee Members Not Present

Kate Hall, Special Education

Georgia Sandgren, Military Student Support

Invited Guests Present

John George, UAF/CTC Faculty

Staff Present

Audra Forsman, Work-based Learning Coordinator

Julie Luddington, CTE Technician

Meeting Notes April 25, 2024

Approved

Program Updates and Highlights

Certifications

Our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs currently serve approximately 1,300 students. The state average is 1,900. Of these, one-third are successfully obtaining certifications. Our goal is to ensure that the certifications our students receive are both valuable and relevant to industry demands. To align our program offerings with industry needs, we are engaging with industry professionals to identify which certifications will be most beneficial for our students' future careers.

Understanding that the cost of certifications can be a financial barrier, we have asked teachers to provide a list of available certifications along with their associated costs.

To improve our program's effectiveness and accountability, we have initiated changes in our reporting process:

- In addition to end-of-year reports, we are now requesting that certification achievements be reported mid-year.

Curriculum

In developing curriculum, it is crucial to outline the certifications students will receive upon completion of each pathway. We are looking in to adding this to CTE curriculum guides as we make updates.

Our current focus areas include Agriculture and Education. We are currently working on the Agriculture curriculum with a teacher at NPH. The first draft of Education is available to the public. There is a 2 year implementation process. (Draft CTE Calendar handout shared.)

In the spring, we will begin discussion on Business and Hospitality and Tourism. Arts/Av is on the agenda, but will be shifted to the Business pathway.

We are partnering with CTC and meeting to discuss more opportunities for our students. We are currently working with them on a Fire Science class. There is a need in the community and a desire in students for this opportunity. The Fire Fighter 1 class will offer 15 credits and students who complete the course can test for certification. We are able to offer this using a Post-secondary grant for tuition.

We are also working on a Cosmetology career pathway. We have been meeting with local salons and have discussed the possibility of students doing the theory portion at school and the hands on part with the salons.

Industry Feedback and Alignment

After our most recent professional development, CTE teachers went and visited their industry business connections. Mr. Daley and Mr. Boyarsky were able to visit Great orthWest. They had 6 former Hutchison students working. They discussed employability skills and learned that there is a handwriting issue.

Other industry partners have also expressed that handwriting and cell phones were an issue with students in the workforce.

Discussion on what is acceptable in industry.

- Student relevance - Why are we learning this?
- How does this work in my real life.
- Why don't students want to do certain things?

Karen Lapp mentioned that she has noticed a weakness and lack of stamina in students. At a recent event held at FMH, the students were expressing tiredness and wanted to sit.

Rodney said that he has had students ask for standing pads.

Concentration levels are low. They don't understand that what might be acceptable at school is not acceptable in a work environment.

John George recommended incorporating soft skills in the classroom and couple that with the explanation on why things are not acceptable in industry.

Shaheena Shahid mentioned that since Covid things changed. Students now live their life through social media. They don't understand dress codes. Always questioning why?

Melissa Sawchuck noted that students don't have the flexibility in a job that they are accustomed to. Everything comes to them now.

Amy stated that students are less likely to have a drivers license now.

Could we put Driver's Education back into the schools? Sarah and Tara will explore the idea.

Dave Dershin spoke about the Hutchison Workplace Readiness Scores. It gives employers a picture of the student.

Karen stated that it wouldn't work for her because not everyone applying has the same report.

Keith Swarner mentioned that soft skills may not help you get a job, but they will help you keep a job.

Tara spoke regarding the progression of soft skill reports in school. Elementary grading is basically all soft skills, but that goes away in middle school.

Work Based Learning Update - Audra Forsman

There are two classes in the spring semester. The number of students is low now until word gets out about the Internship program. There are 35 students enrolled. Audra interviews each student.

The internships can be paid or unpaid. Students can apply with employers, but may or may not be selected. There are currently 40 employers ready to take student interns.

There are some issues in the healthcare field because students must be over 18 to do an internship. This can also be an issue in the trades area.

Audra updated the committee on the Explore the Trades program which exposes students to different careers. February 13th & 14th.

Intro to Electrical class held in the fall.

We are working with counselors on middle to high school career planning.

Middle school field trips planned.

Project based learning discussed. Geometry in Construction class combining math skills and building trades. Building planter boxes among other things.

The Internship program at Eielson is reigniting! Alaska Air Guard is interested in participating.

Committee Input on Program Improvement

We are looking to our advisory committees to see how we can improve the participation in our pathways. How can we better communicate with students and parents about what is offered? Working with counselors. What are some different ways we can get information out there?

- Pete suggested partnering with boy scouts to do a merit badge event in welding.
- Be more visible.
- Family events on military bases
- Workshops?
- Secondary Transition Events
- Social Media Blasts

We need to make special population students more aware of their opportunities. MLL (ELL) and SPED students have support hours so their schedule doesn't always allow for CTE classes.

ELL taking CNA - FHP Tutoring to help pass classes.

We are working on getting more student run organizations going.

HOSA - Andrea Gelvin holding event with FHP in December

SkillsUSA starting back up again within the state

Ed Rising

FFA

Adjournment 4:25 pm

NEXT MEETING DATE: APRIL