

Bellflower Unified School District
Career Technical Education
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2024

PRESENT:

Gil Castañeda Jr.	Melissa Ellis	Alan Gregory
Paul Hudak	Jasmine Lane	Colleen McKinley
Joe Mulleary	Victor Palacios	Monica Saucedo
Thomas Sutfin	Mario Vargas	Lisa Azevedo
Arlene Whitney	Lisa Swearingen	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Lisa Azevedo. The meeting was held at the Bellflower Unified School District C1 Conference Room.

II. WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

Members present introduced themselves by sharing their partnership.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

Gil Castañeda Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes. Melissa Ellis seconded.

IV. 2023-24 CTE PROGRAM UPDATES

- a. Perkins total budget for the 2023-24 school year is \$135,039.00. As of March 11, our remaining balance is \$49,911.56. CTE teachers are submitting their requests for end of year purchases so this will be fully expended by June 30, 2024.
- b. CTEIG total budget for the 2023-24 school year is \$2,097,283.00. This amount does include carryover. As of March 11, our remaining balance is \$1,046,268.68. We have had many projects this year including our new Retail Marketing pathway at Mayfair High School.
- c. Pathway Updates

Aviation: Harbor Freight was visiting our classrooms today. A charter school principal was also in attendance to see our Aviation classroom set-up.

CalAPS has applied for a grant to hold a summer course in partnership with Cerritos College. The summer course would include two teachers and students could earn high school credits while building a Tiny Home.

Students would earn a scholarship and would not technically be employed.

CalAPS is also looking into an after school Urban Farming class in the Fall. Looking into incorporating both Mayfair's greenhouse and Bellflower's Freight Farm to see the different ways of farming.

Marketing / Retail Marketing: Mayfair High School lab facility. Lots of new equipment, cabinetry and new flooring has been completed to prepare the classroom.

V. SUMMER CTE DUAL ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

Arlene Whitney handed out flyers for the courses that will be offered this summer. The courses include a Dual Enrollment History of Rock Music with Cerritos College. CalAPS courses include Culinary Arts, EMT, Auto and two Health Occupations classes. Students can reach out to their counselors.

VI. STUDENT CTSO PARTICIPATION

Arlene Whitney shared that we have 50+ students that will be competing at SkillsUSA State Competition in Ontario from April 4-7. Some categories include commercial drone, fashion design, firefighter, electrical, and prepared speech. If anyone is interested in attending to watch the competition, please reach out to Lisa Azevedo or Arlene Whitney. Jasmine Lane asked that the spreadsheet of students participating be shared.

VII. URBAN FREIGHT FARM PRESENTATION

Paul Hudak from Growing Together Education shared a presentation on the various farming activities at both Bellflower and Mayfair Middle/High Schools.

The Freight Farm at Bellflower Middle/High School is a hydroponic shipping container that is 10 ft by 40 ft and holds 100 gallons of water. Four different types of lettuce are currently being grown, harvested and given to BUSD's Nutrition Services to prepare for school site's salad bar for students. No soil is used. Seedlings are planted in foam panels that are placed on the wall inside the container. There is no worry about pests, only 5 gallons of water is added each week and it is currently producing approximately 500 heads of lettuce a week. Paul is working with Nutrition Services Director, Candice Crump to see what other vegetables and herbs can be planted for use at BUSD schools.

The greenhouse at Mayfair Middle/High School is on the roof of the new STEAM building. They are utilizing areas inside the greenhouse as well as outside the greenhouse. Staff and students are currently growing tomatoes, cilantro and other vegetables/herbs. Mayfair is incorporating science classes for example, an environmental science class is utilizing the greenhouse for their studies.

Paul emphasized that BUSD is doing an amazing job incorporating other subjects into both the Freight Farm and greenhouse. From science classes to mental health pathways, students and staff are fully utilizing both farming techniques for education.

Paul brought one panel from the Freight Farm. Members were able to roman lettuce.

VIII. NEXT MEETING – 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.