Onslow County Schools Career and Technical Education
Business Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2024

Attendees:

- Chris Barnes
- Will Laine
- Tim Foster
- Brad Staley
- John Hoopes
- Cierra Ward
- Seth Ward
- Tami Rosage
- Angie Mason
- Madeline Tucker
- Kassi Miller
- John Shannon

Welcome and Introductions:

- Will Laine welcomed everyone to the meeting and lead an introduction to the new vision for the council, which now includes advisory and voting members to ensure a quorum. The voting members were agreed upon by the Onslow County Board of Education at the October 1, 2024 Board Meeting.

Election of New Chair:

- Laurette Leagon was elected as the new chair with 5 votes, which met the requirements of a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

- Upon motion by Dr. Barnes, and second by Mr. Shannon, the agenda was approved.

Plan for Moving Forward:

- Two annual meetings planned: one in fall and one in spring.
- Recruitment of new advisory members for the March 12th meeting.
- Lunch and meeting with teachers about credentials and employability of students moving forward.

ENCRSC Overview:

- John Shannon provided an overview of ENCRSC, with a tour available post-meeting.
- Emphasis on industry needs and employability skills.

Student Showcase:

- Virtual Presentation by **Courtney Rogers** and **Ryder Orr** (Senior at DHS).

OCS at a Glance:

- Over 70 credentials offered.
- Work Keys testing on a wide variety of applications.
- Over 360 business partners throughout the county.
- High graduation rate for concentrators (over 95%).

Credentials:

- Madeline Tucker discussed different pathways and aligned credentials for each course.

BAC Council Survey:

- Council members and guests were invited to fill out a brief survey.

Work-Based Learning (WBL):

- Angie Mason and Will Laine discussed the benefits of WBL opportunities, including:
    1. Providing a pool of talented and motivated students.
    2. Mentoring and developing the next generation of professionals.
    3. Supporting education and workforce development.
    4. Enhancing the employer's reputation within the community.
    5. Contributing to skills development for a future workforce.

Additional Benefits of WBL:

- Brad Staley: Future employee pool and filling own needs.
- John Hoopes: Pipeline for growth and retention of current employees.
- Seth Ward: Field trips for forestry and forest management.
- Cierra Ward: Hands-on experience for students and learning by teaching skills for current employees.

Internships:

- Tami Rosage and Angie Mason discussed the selection process and benefits of internships both during the school year and summer.

Closing Remarks:

- **Seth Ward** mentioned the “Be Pro Be Proud” initiative and that Onslow County should work to get involved with them. We are still attempting to schedule our week (7 full days) with Be Pro Be Proud.

Questions and Adjournment:

- The meeting concluded with a Q&A session and a short tour of the Eastern NC Regional Skills Center.