

CTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

December 3, 2025

3:00-4:30

520 5th Ave

Curriculum Library 4th floor

Welcome/Call to Order 3:01 pm

Introductions/Roll Call

Committee Members Present

Andrea Wade, CTE Director

Peter Daley, FEA Representative

Tara Devaughn, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator

Katrina Erick, Doyon Foundation

Andrea Gelvin, Gelvin Prof Training/HOSA

Karen Lapp, Foundation Health

Mark Pliska, Alaska West

Georgia Sandgren, Military Student Support

Michelle Spillane, UAF Upward Bound

Committee Members Not Present

Sarah Gillam, Asst. Superintendent

Meredith Maple, School Board

Dave Dershin, FPA Representative

Kate Hall, Ex. Director, SpEd

John George, UAF/CTC Faculty

Amy Schumacher, FPTC

Shaheena Shahid, ELL Director

Chelsea Taylor, M-V/Foster Care

Bryon Uher, UAF/CTC

Juanita Webb, Explore Fairbanks

Rodney Wolcott, Local 375 Plumbers & Pipefitters

Staff Present

Audra Forsman, Work-based Learning Coordinator

Julie Luddington, CTE Technician

Meeting Notes April 23, 2025

Approved

Agenda December 3, 2025

Approved

Overview of meeting purpose and goals

- Connecting with community. What does our community need?
- How did we end last school year?
- Where are we now?

CTE Program Updates

- Enrollment Trends
 - Andrea spoke about the number of students in each school enrolled in pathways.
 - Highest enrollment trends are at Hutchison and North Pole High Schools.
 - Transportation continues to be a significant barrier for student access.
 - Staffing challenges at the other schools limit the number of CTE classes available.
 - How do we create equity and access to CTE opportunities for students at every school?
 - CNA
 - We have struggled to fill both semesters of the CNA class for several years. This year, only one section (2nd semester) is being offered. Currently, there are 22 students enrolled.
- Program highlights - Fall Semester
 - Agriculture classes at NPHS are full and going well. Students are earning science credit for the course as well. Middle schools will have classes in the spring semester.
 - We are looking at ways to cross-credit Culinary and Healthcare courses with science as well.
 - Cosmetology is scheduled to begin at Lathrop next semester. We are in the process of developing curriculum. A teacher has not yet been hired; however, there is currently one applicant.
 - In August, the Rasmussen Foundation connected the district with the Bloomberg Foundation regarding skilled trades funding. We have been awarded a planning year. If the planning year is successful, we will be funded for an additional three years, totaling up to \$7 million.

Successes and Growth

- Credential and industry certifications
 - We had 550 students receive certifications last year, about 100 more than the previous year. We are seeing increases each year.
- We are pushing all CTE teachers to have advisory meetings with industry partners to find out what they need our students to know when they are looking for employment.
- Emerging skill needs and program alignment
 - NPH Auto program became ASE certified at the end of last school year. They are the only ASE certified school in Alaska. Hutch is in the process of becoming ASE certified.
 - We were informed last year that our Pharmacy Technician students could not take the state exam because our program at Hutch was not certified. This year our students are using a curriculum from the National Healthcareer Association and will be eligible to take the exam on completion of the program.

Industry & Workforce Needs

- Mark Pliska – Alaska West is swamped with work, but having a hard time finding enough workers.
 - Alaska West did hire three student employees.
- Karen Lapp – The hospital is leveling out. CNA numbers are higher.
- Katrina Erick – Doyon is struggling to find workers with drivers Licenses. There are also challenges with driving records and passing drug tests.

Student Opportunities & Work-based Learning

- Internships, job shadows, and apprenticeships
 - 1st semester there are 45 students doing internships in the community. 2nd semester we have 23 signed up at this time.
 - We are working in conjunction with UAF/CTC to hold a Firefighter 1 training course during 2nd semester. Students can earn 15 credits from UAF and immediately enter a career as a firefighter, in any state (except Florida).
 - We are holding our electrical class during parent-teacher conferences for the second year.
 - Summer health science camp for incoming 9th graders will be at NPH and HUT for the second year.
 - We will be having a construction academy summer camp for incoming 9th graders this year.
 - Hoping to do exploratory summer camps for middle school students in the future.

- Upcoming student events, competitions, and showcases
 - Brainstorming with local industry partners on Career and Job fairs during the spring parent-teacher conferences.

CTE Strategic Priorities

- Perkins V updates and accountability
 - Funding has been stagnating for at least eight years. Not much change in the amount received. Our district received about \$445,000.00 this year.
 - Perkins has been moved to the Department of Labor.
- Facilities, equipment, and resource needs
 - Upgrades and equipment for cosmetology facilities.
- Hutch is reviewing how pathways are offered
 - Discussing changing schedule to 100-minute blocks so CTE teachers have more time to work with students. Current high school schedule based on core instruction doesn't offer enough time to work on projects each day.

Partnership Development

- New and ongoing collaborations with local employers
 - Working with Michelle Spillane from UAF Upward Bound program.
 - MOUs with several businesses for student internships
- Opportunities for advisory engagement in classrooms and events
 - Employers would like to create "Did you know" posters/flyers for students to learn about different careers.

Open Discussion & Q&A

- Committee feedback/recommendations and concerns
 - Andrea discussed the possibilities of FNSBSD working with the Interior CTE Consortium which consists of Delta, Galena, and Tok school districts. We are looking at doing intensive courses for students in the spring of 2027.
 - Pete spoke about a representative from Hilcorp meeting with students at Hutch to explain what Process Tech is so that students could get a better idea of what they could do after taking the class, and how lucrative the jobs can be.
 - Process Tech students earn 3 credits for taking the semester class.

- Andrea discussed the importance of CTSOs and how they benefit students.
 - Raffle for SkillsUSA
 - Organizations need to know how they can help support CTSOs in order to help. You don't know what you don't know.
- Adjournment @ 4:18

NEXT MEETING DATES

February – TBD

Spring - TBD