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## Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) Meeting Minutes February 10, 2020

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**CALL TO ORDER** – Committee Chair, Deb Miller, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. at Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA), 1819 E. Milham Avenue, Portage, Michigan 49002.

### **MW SOUTHWEST CEAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kim Andrews-Bingham, for Jan Karazim (KCC)  
Kristen Asiala, for Dennis Hunt (CISD)  
Kim Bell (Local District)  
Thomas Cameron (SJCISD)  
Diane Fort (Parent)  
Jill Gernaat (Parent)  
Patti Henning (KVCC, alternate for Dr. Coates)  
Jerry Johnson (CISD)

Jason Luke (SW MI STEM)  
David Maurer (PS-Humphrey Products)  
Laura McGuire (PS-DENSO)  
Deb Miller (KRESA)  
James Sertic (PS-Sertic Consulting)  
Randy Sowles (Branch ISD)  
Tim Staffen (CISD)  
Ken Willcutt (Labor-Plumbers, Pipefitters, HVACR)

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Ashley Iovieno (Business Services, MWSW)

Kathy Olsen (MWSW)

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Cameron Buck (KRESA)  
John Fiore (MRS)  
Valerie Jemerson (MI Dept LEO)  
Deb Kolberg (KRESA)

Sam Morseau (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi)  
Karen Robyn (KRESA)  
Lisa Smith (YOU/KRESA)  
Eric Stewart (YOU/KRESA)

### **MW SOUTHWEST CEAC MEMBERS ABSENT**

Morris Applebey (Labor-Kal Electrical JATC)  
James Brylowski / James Callahan, alternate  
(Labor-SW MI Building Trades)

Dr. Deb Coates / Patti Henning, alternate (KVCC)  
Michael Goldin / Paul Aivars, alternate (GOCC)  
Windy Rea (Job Corps)

### **INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Individuals present introduced themselves and the agency they represented.

### **MINUTES**

**Motion made by Tim Staffen and supported by Kim Bell to approve the Michigan Works! Southwest Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) November 4, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried.**

### **TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Sam Morseau, Director of Education for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, shared information regarding federally recognized tribes in Michigan. The information was summarized in a PowerPoint presentation. He reported the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi which is located in Southwest Michigan is one of twelve federally recognized Indian tribes in the State of Michigan and it is the only federally recognized tribe in

Indiana. Mno-Bmadsen is the non-gaming investment arm of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians (aka the “Tribe”). This independently managed arm of the Tribe was launched in 2012 with the mandate to diversify the Pokagon Band’s business interests, revenue streams and wealth for future generations. Mno-Bmadsen has multiple actively managed investment portfolios that include professional services, construction services, manufacturing services and commercial real estate services. This equates to many tribal owned businesses located throughout Southwest Michigan and there are lots of opportunities for partnerships. Other tribal activities include multiple career pathway programs for youth and adults that are connected to career opportunities in the tribal companies, apprenticeships, internships and job placement in tribal government and casino construction projects. A video [<https://mno-bmadsen.com/pathways-mno-bmadsen/>] to highlight one of the career pathways was shared with members. He reported one of ten placements in the tribal businesses are tribal members, which leaves many employment opportunities for others.

### **MiSTEM**

Jason Luke, Regional Director for Southwest MiSTEM, reported on STEM activities in Southwest Michigan. He reported the Southwest Michigan region covers eight counties that include Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren. STEM (also STEAM) is a combination of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (and Arts). The goal of MiSTEM is to strengthen these areas of study and align them with how the knowledge is used in the business environment. The foundation and infrastructure of MiSTEM includes four pillars: create a STEM culture, empower STEM teachers, integrate business and education, and ensure high-quality STEM experiences. Priority clusters for integrating business and education are focused on four primary areas that include information technology, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, and professional trades. He provided examples of teacher summer experiences where the teachers were embedded in business for Project Based Learning (PBL). He further reported the 2019-2020 grant funds are being used to develop a teacher leadership network; increase opportunities or Project Based Learning; provide math recovery training opportunities; and Code.org training for teacher leaders. To end the PowerPoint presentation Jason Luke shared a video that demonstrated strategic partnerships for learning at Schoolcraft Schools. [<https://sites.google.com/schoolcraftcs.org/strategic-partnerships-scs/home>]

### **INDUSTRY CREDENTIALING and OTHER CERTIFICATIIONS**

Representatives from each county and KRESA’s Youth Opportunities (YOU) division shared their lists of credentials available to students. This led to a robust discussion among members. Employers present stressed that having a credential doesn’t necessarily lead to a job and that the ability to demonstrate the skills is more important.

Val Jemerson, representing the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO), reported one of her colleagues at LEO, Jenni Spaulding, is a member of the Credential Engine project team and she is available to respond to questions regarding Michigan’s role, the project goals and objectives, and the extent of industry involvement. The credential engine website is <https://credentialengine.org/>. The information gathered from the project will be shared with industry associations.

### **CEAC METRICS**

Kathy Olsen referred to the CEAC Dashboard report that was included in the agenda packet and asked if there were any additional established apprenticeships or career exploration events to add. The goals are 20 new apprenticeships and 25 career exploration events for the program year that began October 1, 2019. Per Deb Miller, one additional event, the KRESA CTE open house held on February 5 was added to the events. Ashley Iovieno reported an electrician maintenance apprenticeship was also added late January at Morgan Olson. She explained that apprenticeship trainings are demand driven and are established on the terms and timeline that works for the employer.

## MEMBER/GUEST UPDATES

Val Jemerson announced a few updated Michigan Industry Cluster Reports were released and PDF versions of the reports are available on the State's website. Additional industry reports will be available soon.

- Energy  
[https://milmi.org/Portals/198/publications/Cluster\\_reports/Energy\\_Cluster.pdf](https://milmi.org/Portals/198/publications/Cluster_reports/Energy_Cluster.pdf)
- Information Technology  
[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/InformationTechnologyClusterReport\\_2019\\_678072\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/InformationTechnologyClusterReport_2019_678072_7.pdf)
- Manufacturing  
[https://milmi.org/Portals/198/publications/Cluster\\_reports/Manufacturing\\_Cluster.pdf](https://milmi.org/Portals/198/publications/Cluster_reports/Manufacturing_Cluster.pdf)
- Coming soon: updated cluster reports for agriculture, construction, and healthcare.

Val Jemerson also reported the Michigan's Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity has been restructured to include all workforce development services. As a result of this change, Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) and the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) are now under LEO.

Ashley Iovieno, Business Services Manager for Michigan Works! Southwest, reported staff are still waiting for approval of State funding for the Going PRO Talent Fund. She reported Leadership Supervisory Training has consistently been in high demand for employers in the MWSW service area.

Cameron Buck, EFE representative from KRESA, reported focus groups are being held in partnership with Southwest Michigan First throughout the Kalamazoo area. The purpose of the focus groups is to align Career Technical Education (CTE) training programs with employer needs that includes soft skills, credentials, etc.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS and MEETINGS

Kathy Olsen announced February is National Career Technical Education (CTE) Month.  
<https://www.acteonline.org/why-cte/cte-awareness/cte-month/>

Deb Miller reported the Kalamazoo RESA Open House previously mentioned during the metrics discussion was held at the Air Zoo on February 5, 2020 to showcase and promote CTE to parents and students. The event included opportunities available through Education for Employment (EFE), Education for the Arts (EFA), and Early Middle College (EMC).

Kathy Olsen announced the next Workforce Development Board meeting for Michigan Works! Southwest is scheduled for Friday, February 14, 2020 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Battle Creek Unlimited, 4950 W. Dickman Rd, Battle Creek, Michigan.

## NEXT MEETING

Deb Miller announced that the next meeting of the Michigan Works! Southwest CEAC is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2020 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Kalamazoo RESA. Agenda topics for the meeting will be Perkins activities, performance indicators, and federal measures, as well as a presentation on the MyCITY Summer Youth Employment Program. [Note: this meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.] Work-Based Learning was suggested as a topic for the fall 2020 meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Olsen, CEAC staff support

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Deb Miller, Chair CEAC