
Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) Meeting Minutes November 16, 2020

CALL TO ORDER – Committee Chair, Tim Staffen, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. via virtual GoTo Meeting.

MW SOUTHWEST CEAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Dennis Baskin (KCC)
Cameron Buck (CTE-Kalamazoo)
Tommy Cameron (SJCISD)
Dr. Deb Coates (KVCC)
Mike Goldin (GOCC)
LaToy Green (Parent)
Rey Guzman (MI-LEO)
Jerry Johnson (CISD)
Jason Luke (SW MI STEM)

David Maurer (PS-Humphrey Products)
Laura McGuire (PS-DENSO)
Jessica Meskil (MWSW)
Andrea Rainer (Huron Pottawatomi)
(alt for Sam Morseau)
Diane Owen-Rogers (MiSTEM)
Windy Rea (Job Corps)
Jim Sertic (PS-Sertic Consulting)
Tim Staffen (CISD)

STAFF PRESENT

Ashley Iovieno (Business Services, MWSW)

Kathy Olsen (MWSW)

OTHERS PRESENT

Greg Dedes (PS-Frederick Construction)
Dawn DeLuca (KRESA)
John Fiore (MRS)
Deb Kolberg (STEM)

Diane Roose (GOCC)
Lisa Smith (YOU/KRESA)
Brenda Stewart (MEDC)

MW SOUTHWEST CEAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Morris Applebey (Labor-Kal Electrical JATC)
Paul Aivars (GOCCO)
Kim Bell (Adult Educ/KPS)
James Brylowski / James Callahan, alternate
(Labor-SW MI Building Trades)

Denny Hunt (CISD)
Randy Sowles (BACC)
Ken Willcutt (Plumbers & Pipefitters &
HVACR Local Union 357)

INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Individuals present introduced themselves and the agency they represented.

MINUTES

Motion made by John Fiore and supported by Michael Goldin to approve the Michigan Works! Southwest Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) September 21, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

61b STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Tim Staffen reported Section 61(b) of the State School Aid Act was revised. This funding supports Career Technical Education (CTE) and Early Middle College (EMC). The revision to the Act required each Career Education Planning District (CEPD) to designate their fiscal agency, as well as, whether they would maintain the regional 61(b) strategic plan and the top five career clusters rankings; or if they would be revising the plan prior to December 1, 2020. The three CEPDs in the Michigan Works! Southwest area each elected to maintain the current plan and career cluster rankings. The CEPD fiscal agencies in the Michigan Works! Southwest area were identified to be KRESA for Kalamazoo County, St. Joseph County Intermediate School District for St. Joseph County and Calhoun ISD for Barry, Branch and Calhoun Counties.

INDUSTRY CREDENTIALING and OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

CTE indicators are focused on credentials that students can earn while still in high school and the State continues to help identify those. It was noted that it has been difficult to identify some of the credentials for manufacturing due to the specifics in this industry. Tommy Cameron reported in St. Joseph County, students earn OSHA 10 certification for many programs, NIMS certification for manufacturing, and IT certification for multiple programs. Other certifications can be earned in welding and MLR certification in automotive. Calhoun County reported certifications can be earned for health and construction, as well as robotics and welding certifications that are aligned with the manufacturing curriculum. Members noted that OSHA 10 and MLR certifications are valuable credentials for students to earn. Laura McGuire reported individuals hired at DENSO can earn OSHA 30 through the company, however it is not required to obtain employment with DENSO. Lisa Smith reported YOU/KRESA is partnering with Branch Area Career Center to offer health care certifications to approximately 30 students. Some will earn a medical certification and others are on track to earn their CNA certification. She added that with the newest COVID-19 health order, completing the required clinical hours this semester may be difficult. One member noted that credential attainment is a measure of program quality under Perkins V.

Another member reported there are grants available through the State to focus efforts on career pathways and credential attainment valued by Michigan employers. Applications for the most recent round are due on December 1, 2020.

Multiple members reported programming has been a challenge with COVID-19 restrictions and everyone is trying to retool and reimagine how to provide services.

CEAC 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

Tim Staffen and Kathy Olsen will meet to plan a 2021 schedule. It was noted a meeting will be necessary in March to review and approve the Perkins. Career Education Planning District (CEPD) planning summaries. Directors should have their CEPD budgets by then.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Many attendees reported their organizations are adjusting to restrictions due to COVID-19, including what was announced the previous evening. Tim Staffen reported it has been necessary for schools to make multiple adjustments. The Calhoun Area Career Center began with distance learning and had plans to phase-in a hybrid model; however, the health department was encouraging a delay in doing so. He also reported that many students are requesting additional support.

Tommy Cameron reported St. Joseph County has been using a mix of in-person and virtual instruction and that students are not doing well with the hybrid model. Instructors for Career Technical Education are looking at the positives and negatives of all options.

One person reported some students were switching from healthcare careers and the reason given was that they did not want the added exposure to COVID.

Cameron Buck reported there has been good enrollment with little or no attrition in health, law and EMT CTE programs offered through Kalamazoo RESA. Tommy Cameron reported similar experiences in the CTE programs in St. Joseph County. Diane Roose reported they are not seeing a drop in enrollment in healthcare at Glen Oaks Community College; however, many providers are not letting students into their facilities to complete internships and clericals. Others reported experiencing the same limitation to complete clinicals for their healthcare students.

John Fiore reported Michigan Rehabilitation Services is providing all services virtually. Services provided by partners varies by the entity providing the services, some are virtual, and some are in-person. With the most recent Executive Order, most services will be virtual. Job coaching is being provided for essential workers and staff are coordinating other supports for their customers. MRS serves a vulnerable population and the number of MRS customers seeking employment was reported to be down.

Ashley Iovieno reported Michigan Works! Southwest attempted to open Service Centers for some in-person services; however, ended up moving back to all virtual services. Michigan Works! Southwest is exploring how to provide assessment tests for employers.

Employers in attendance reported businesses are facing many struggles during the pandemic which includes supply chain management, production and filling open positions.

CEAC METRICS

Kathy Olsen requested that members notify her of career exploration events so that they can be included in the annual CEAC metrics.

MEMBER/GUEST UPDATES

Jason Luke reported the annual MiCareerQuest Southwest will be held virtually in the spring of 2021. He also reported six new career coaches have been hired for middle school students in Kalamazoo County. In addition to several short videos, the career coaches will be talking with students about first jobs and promoting skills.

Laura McGuire reported DENSO is working on an Education Influence project and is partnering with DENSO North America Foundation to develop a career exploration website. Videos and lesson plans will be created and posted on the website. More information will be provided at a later date.

Deb Kolberg reported additional career path content for STEM education is being developed.

Ashley Iovieno reported the annual Manufacturing Day will be celebrated throughout the month of October. Staff are partnering with entities in the Battle Creek area to provide career panels for students. Additionally, a series of career exploration videos are being rolled out. The videos cover five job categories that includes production, logistics, information technology, engineering, and business services such as human resources. Links to the videos were sent to members following the meeting.

Jerry Johnson reported in the new year there will be a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to apply and be an approved provider of Adult Education services via Section 107 funding. The new three-year cycle is for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Eligible school districts seeking to receive 107 funding to provide Adult Education programming will be required to submit applications.

- An official RFP notice will be released by January 19, 2021 and the Region 8 fiscal agent will send an invitation to all eligible K-12 entities to participate in the RFP process.
- Applications for the Southwest Prosperity Region 8 will be due to the Region 8 fiscal agent to the attention of Jerry Johnson by February 19, 2021.
- The Region 8 fiscal agent will announce results of the RFP review and decision no later than March 19, 2021.
- Approved providers will be asked to complete the application in Nexus (formerly MEGS). The complete Region 8 application is due to be submitted to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Adult Services by April 16, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS and MEETINGS

The next Workforce Development Board Executive Committee meeting for Michigan Works! Southwest is scheduled for Friday, December 11, 2020 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. This will be a virtual meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Notice for the next meeting of the Michigan Works! Southwest CEAC will be emailed to members once a schedule for 2021 is confirmed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Olsen, CEAC staff support

Tim Staffen, Chair CEAC