

CAREER & EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, May 6, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

Chair: Alycia Meriweather, Detroit Public Schools Community District

Co-Chair: Maria Woodruff-Wright, The Skillman Foundation

Attendees:

- Members – Alycia Meriweather, Maria Woodruff-Wright, Diane Antishin, Monique Ellis, Mark Gaffney, Dr. Curtis Ivery, and Randy Liepa
- Invited Guests – Shawn Hill, Jendayi Gardner, Dana Hughes, and Kumar Raj
- Staff – Dana Williams, Omar Hasan, Chardae Caine, Rachel May, and Robert Shimkoski

The meeting of the Career & Education Advisory Council was called to order at 3:05pm by Chairperson Meriweather.

Administrative Items

Introduction of Maria Woodruff-Wright

Maria Woodruff-Wright introduced herself. She is the Interim CEO/President of the Skillman Foundation. Her professional focus has always been on children, and she is excited to serve on the CEAC. She also serves on the DESC Board and has been on that for approximately three (3) years.

Minutes

Motion to accept by Dr. Ivery; seconded by Dr. Liepa. Motion passed.

Purpose of CEAC

When the Council comes together, the main purpose is advising the Mayor’s Workforce Development Board regarding the educational portion of the local plan. The Council should coordinate with educational entities in guiding career development and pathways, whether that is high school, community college, CTE, adult education, or re-entry.

The metrics that the Council adopted in May 2020 are below. Some are required by the State of Michigan, and the Council added two additional metrics.

CEAC Metrics (Submitted to State in May 2020)

Activity	Performance Metric	Current #	Status
Establishing Registered Apprenticeships for adults and youth	105	88	Required
Participating in career pathway and exploration events	15,000	13,569	Required
Post-secondary credential attainment	1,600	1,457	Required
Develop work-based learning activities (including internships)	8,000	8,281	Additional
Establishing-pre-apprenticeships	60	48	Additional

Q: Are these metrics for a twelve-month period? Yes.

- The activities identified in the metrics help the Council identify goals to accomplish together as a group.

A snapshot of students participating in career pathway and exploration events showed how COVID-19 impacted both the 2019-2020 school year and the 2020-2021 school year. Seeing increases in programming in comparison to last year. If not for the effects of COVID, there would be an even greater increase in student participation.

Q: Can we assume that the cancelled programs due to COVID-19 restrictions will come back, in relation to MI Career Quest?

- MI Career Quest may not come back because they are moving toward a new platform that will assist more students with career exploration. It could come back via in a virtual format, and it is a matter of connecting with partners to find out the final decision. The CTE school tours will return, even if only virtually. If DPSCD can find a way to adapt, they will. There may be additional programs developed.

One positive that has come from the past year is organizations learning how to provide programming virtually, which could lead to an ability to reach more students overall.

Dr. Liepa announced that he is retiring, and all expressed their gratitude for his service and support, congratulated him on his next steps. He commented that there will be more opportunities to quickly put together virtual programming, even doing multiple events in the same space.

Dr. Ivery stated that right now Wayne County Community College District has online distance learning and limited in-person activities. They are discussing how to move or expand certain college programs for students. They are working closely with the County and City in terms of what to expect with stimulus dollars.

Q: Is there any evaluation on how students felt about the quality or connectedness of events they attended? Do we track if it springboards them to do something related to the career?

- Yes, Dana Hughes stated that most work-based learning opportunities have follow-up between student and employer and usually the school district receives a recommendation, or students are provided with next steps. CTE programs require a follow-up survey report to find out if they are still in the career field they graduated with, if they are working or taking additional classes, etc. A 90% response rate is normal on this survey.

Q: Have we received feedback on Manufacturing Day or Junior Achievement?

- Usually, there is a follow-up, and Dana Hughes will find out. There has definitely been positive feedback on guest speakers who come into the classroom weekly for the advanced manufacturing CTE program.

Antishin agrees that in a virtual environment we can reach more students, and it is important to measure their feedback on programs we activate.

Committee Focus

Discussions led to two major buckets of work: College and Career Readiness (career academies, work-based learning, connecting education and career) and Opportunity Youth (thinking about how this group can drill down more deeply into that space [age 16-24] and thinking of how to reengage people in this category).

DPSCD/Detroit at Work Partnership

GDYT

Omar: In the past few months, DPSCD and GDYT worked together to determine GDYT's role in credit recovery and summer school. A model where GDYT will have a PM schedule and those who do not need summer school can opt-in to

an AM schedule resulted. Given that most opportunities are driven by hands-on training, one of the components of GDYT is more emphasis on industry-led trainings.

Q: Great partnership in determining student needs. What is the process for charter high schools?

- All students are eligible to participate, and Omar believes that all are defaulted to a PM schedule but will confirm to be sure.

Working on organizing host employers into clusters so being more intentional about assigning students who are in a career pathway or academy into a GDYT placement that aligns to their interest. This would allow it to count as a work-based learning plan that would assist them in graduating.

Q: How many students have enrolled in the exploration events highlighted here?

- The information we have is a bit dated, but we are trending according to where we have been in the past. Dana Hughes and her team will provide additional information as it is finalized.

Youth Apprenticeship Expansion/Career Academy Integration

In January, the State of Michigan's Labor Economic Opportunity announced they were going to accept applications for registered apprenticeship grants, and they were going to give out \$6 million in the first round, across the state. In March, nine regional consortiums received funding for 200 apprenticeships. This grant is targeted for underrepresented populations, minorities, females, youth, individuals with disabilities, and veterans – focusing on advanced manufacturing, health care, construction/energy, and information technology. The partners will include employers, labor, Michigan Works agencies, a secondary educational partner, and a postsecondary educational partner. A second round was just announced. They will be awarding a total of \$5 million with a deadline of May 24, 2021.

Q: Do we need more details regarding this, or are there other entities that should know about this second round?

- Robert Shimkoski: DESC, DTE Energy, and others, worked on a tree trimming apprenticeship program.

Adult Education Collaboration

Dr. Jendayi Gardner, Executive Director, Office of Adult Education, DPSCD

Partnered with Detroit at Work to create a program called Learn-to-Earn so adult students can obtain their HSE, and be immediately connected to career support through the Detroit at Work Career Center network. These students take an assessment and are placed accordingly:

- Adult Basic Education: Participants reading at a 5th – 7th grade level
- High School Equivalency: Participants reading at an 8th – 12th grade level
- High School Completion: Participants need six or less merit curriculum courses
- English as a Second Language: path to citizenship, English language proficiency
- Participants who place lower than 5th grade level are referred to external partners for intense tutoring prior to entering the ABE (adult basic education) program

Detroit Public Schools Community District Support includes:

- DPSCD Deputy Director serves as Career Coach to Non-Learn to Earn students
- Tutoring program
- Robust teacher professional development (monthly)
- Teacher coaching program
- Intervention teacher
- Summer school

When someone is interested in completing their high school diploma or earning their GED, the process is:

1. Go to DetroitatWork.com, complete online interest form, and watch exploratory videos
2. Once they meet requirements, they are connected with a Career Coach
3. Take a placement test to determine which program is best for them
4. Create a profile

Q: Do we/how do we serve those without a computer or computer knowledge?

- DPSCD has students who utilize their cell phones. That has been helpful. Some are sharing devices with other students. Hard copy books, specifically KAPLAN, is currently being used to assist students in studying for the GED/general studying.

Various Detroit at Work customers received devices, many are eligible for hotspots as well.

Q: How do we carry the GDYT practices and opportunities into next year?

- GDYT team is looking to create year-round programming in the future.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00PM.