



Prince William County Public Schools

Career and Technical Education Advisory Council Agenda

Staff Contact: Dr. Sarah Martin, Director, Career and Technical Education

Date: December 5, 2023

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Location: Virtual

Members Present: Melissa Boyle, Russell Keating, Jennifer McKee, Josh Labrie, Todd Grover, and Heather Stietzel

Staff Present: Diana Collins, Nasir Ayoub, Danielle Meyer, Tim Vaughan, Shawnell Carmichael, Christine Good, Dr. Sarah Martin

Members not Present: Paul Fraser, Carl Mainwaring, Raheel Sheikh, Wade Dyer, Dr. Robert Melvin, Dr. Anaid Shaver, Michele Weatherly, and Victoria Dauerer

1. Call to Order

- Russell Keating called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Todd Grover moved to approve the October 17, 2023 minutes as written. Melissa Boyle seconded the motion. There is no discussion. The ayes have it and the motion carries.

3. Action Items

- There are no action items.

4. Information Items

- There are no information items.

5. Unfinished Business

- Christine Good shared feedback provided by the CTE Advisory Council at the October 17, 2023 meeting related to 1) Communication and Course Information, 2) Work-Based Learning, and 3) Industry Credentials.

6. New Business

- Dr. Martin shared the PWCS mission statement with members and asked that they select one word that they connect to this morning.
- Todd Grover shared that 'thriving' is connecting with him this morning.
- Russell and Jennifer are both connecting with the word 'skills' and how it related to CTE courses and student experiences.
- Christine Good shared background knowledge and a review of the 4 pillars of CTE and what CTE looks like in PWCS.
- Christine Good shared an overview of the CTE Program Areas and how they are connected to CTE program areas, career clusters, career pathways, and secondary courses. Christine discussed the required middle school course of Career Investigations that is to be taken by students in 7th grade. This course helps support students' aptitudes and strengths through surveys and career exploration activities that they have and how they align with the CTE career clusters.
- Members had the opportunity to read through an article related to career clusters and pathways to support their inquiry around the 16 Career Clusters. Melissa Boyle shared an interest in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics career clusters and some misconceptions that might no longer apply (i.e., Bachelor's Degree) to her employer at Lockheed Martin.
- Christine Good provided a brief overview of the CTE Perkins V requirement for a Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA). She shared what the CLNA is and how it will support internal CTE planning and support for future Perkins Plans through data-driven decision making. PWCS CTE is seeking the CTE Advisory Council to provide input related to the CLNA. To support this discussion, Christine Good provided a draft of PWCS career pathways including, grade level, course name, prerequisite, industry credential, and work-based learning experience.
- Christine Good provided a discussion prompt(s) for members to continue discussing in small groups in breakout rooms. She asked for any clarifying questions and explained how we are reviewing information from industry, seeking feedback, and working through a draft to communicate with students and families to support career interests and goals. Members discussed examples of high skills, high wage occupations in industry, and associated industry certification and training that might be helpful. Do the CTE courses and programs offered in PWCS prepare students for the high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand occupations available in the region and which career pathways are supporting local or regional economic and workforce needs? Breakout rooms shared a brief overview of their discussions back with the whole group based on the prompts.

7. Announcements

- Danielle Meyer provided an overview of the upcoming Career Fair taking place at Patriot High School and encouraged members to attend the career exploration event for students and families.
- Melissa Boyle shared that there is an annual Women in Engineering Day taking place at Lockheed Martin in person on Thursday, December 7, 2023.

- The next CTE Advisory Council meeting is on **February 20, 2024**, from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., and will take place in person.

8. Adjourn

- Todd Grover sought a motion to adjourn the meeting. Josh Labrie moved to adjourn the meeting. Melissa Boyle seconded the motion. The ayes have it and the motion carries. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

For more information about the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council meetings, please visit www.pwcs.edu/cte.

Breakout Room 1

When we look at the current courses we offer, we will look at hard data to support data-driven decisions. We have two industry experts (Todd and Jennifer) here to support our discussion.

Todd Grover is in the Data Science and software development area. Human services and health sciences might be in high in terms of hiring in the region. You could be 17 –18 years old and start at \$-- -- with basic knowledge of software development. There are a number of software certifications offered internal at PWCS, which are key and can be very expensive to purchase on your own. Certifications provided internally can really cut down on the expenses for students.

Todd provided the following resources to review:

- [10 Top Database Certifications](#)
- [11 Software Engineering Certifications To Pursue in 2023](#)

We build software to support the health care field. A Pharmacy degree is not a doctoral degree. A pharmacy technician job will advance in salary as the time go on.

A certification to an extent can be equivalent to a degree at this point in time.

Jennifer McKee is in the education and hospitality area. Would like to see for students and families what credentials are offered to support what is available and how it will support students. This would support students in the moments for what is available to them. This could support students who are in part-time jobs. Jennifer is interested in looking for good promotional and marketing tools for students and families related to available industry credential opportunities.

Nasir Ayoub is in the education area post-secondary. NOVA provides an opportunity for students to complete the A+ certification which will support students entering the workforce right away without a degree. Employers are seeking these students prior to them finishing a degree to support employment opportunities.

Breakout Room 2 –

Melissa Boyle: In the discussion on STEM careers, emphasis was placed on alternative pathways that don't necessarily involve a traditional 4-year degree. Lockheed Martin and some other companies support employees with higher education and job-related certifications. The industry values apprenticeships, particularly in the engineering labor department. Specific skillsets like AutoCAD and Autodesk Inventor are sought after for engineering roles, along with software coding and digital transformation skills. Certifications in Network+, Security+, and Scrum Master were highlighted. Crucial soft skills, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration are essential for students to bring to the workplace. Christine wondered how students may showcase their skills in a portfolio. Melissa emphasized that having a good resume may not be sufficient if interview skills are lacking.

Joshua Labrie: The discussion highlighted the focus on high-skill, high-wage careers and inquired about our plans for marketing programs – alphabetically or prioritization based on demand (star system). NOVA offers engineering and IT programs with over 1,000 students each, while business is the largest program with 5,000+ students. Maintenance, Data Center Operations, and Construction Management are identified as areas with high-wage demand. With regards to credit for prior learning, the

importance of third-party certifications, such as Google certifications provide cost-effective options and potential credits for NOVA students. The dean reviews credential to course requirements to award credit(s). An example offered is OSHA 10 that affords a student 1 which equates to a credit savings of \$190+. The need for transparency regarding demand versus income potential for jobs was stressed. Early childhood education is noted for its passion-driven nature, but lower income potential compared to Data Center Operations. NOVA's Tableau dashboard provides useful information and connects enrollment to available careers: <https://www.nvcc.edu/about/offices/strategic-insights/lmi/index.html>.