

**BERRIEN, CASS, & VAN BUREN
CAREER & EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2023
Michigan Works! Hybrid Meeting**

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

Chris Machiniak, Bob Kara, Allie Knapp, Dr. Karen Reilly (virtual), Barbara Craig (virtual) Jay Bauer (virtual) Robert Smith (virtual), Diane Owen-Rogers (Virtual) Ashley Offord (Virtual)

Members Absent: Mikki Spagnoli, Chris Newland, Sarah Workman, John Fonash

Others Present:

Michigan Works! Staff Present:

Mindy Watson and Ian Gordon

Presentations: Diane Owen-Rogers (MiSTEM), Perkins Grant Overview

MiSTEM:

Diane Owen-Rogers presented the following two workshops that are being offered in Math and Science through MiSTEM. Cohort training for four days then the teacher takes the four-day class and will be held in Sault Ste. Marie, lodging is covered. The links to the programs were given in the chat and digital copies provided. Chris Machiniak asked if there was availability for representation as there are teachers at Berrien RESA with would be a good fit. Robert Smith asked about infusing Algebra II into some of the engineering pathways and if what they are teaching is now teaching to the alignment of the SAT test and not the previous ACT?

AMPED and GIC workshop:

Are you looking for hand-on, engaging, and project-based learning content to teach Algebra 1 and/or Geometry? The MiSTEM Network is providing 32 scholarships for the Algebra in Manufacturing Processes, Entrepreneurship & Design (AMPED) Workshop and 32 scholarships for the Geometry in Construction (GIC) Workshop for summer 2023 cohort training. Training will take place June 26 - 29, 2023 in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. [See this link](#) for more information and to apply.

Data Science workshop:

The Math and Computer Science Action Areas are bringing educators a comprehensive learning series to meaningfully integrate mathematics and computer science. This 5-day workshop series will equip educators with the ability to implement module-based math lessons that capitalize on the modern digital tools that computer science offers to support effective and efficient teaching and learning. Educators will have access to FREE CURRICULUM RESOURCES to implement in the 2023-24 academic school year. See the [Data Science Info. Page](#) for more information and to apply.

Chris Machiniak, Robert Smith, and Mikki Spagnoli Perkins Grant PY 2023-2024:

Requirements of Perkins grant is a walkthrough of where the funds are being allocated for the year. Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren RESA and ISD's collaborate together on many things relating to CTE. The grant is in the amount of \$700,000 grant is to state approved CTE programs that provide student with academic and technical knowledge to be spent on 9th-12th grade. KPI's were provided and are gearing up to complete the Local Needs Assessment. Robert added that this is a federal grant, and the federal government provides funds for CTE programs in states, each state is responsible for putting together their own plan. CPI's targets are around four-year graduation rates, a focus on Math, Reading, and Science, a post-program placement, non-traditional program placement and program quality. There are currently activities being developed around the target area. Robert stated that the group reached out to business and industry to determine what their needs from education are to prepare students for industry test and assessments, as things might be different for an employer on one side of the state from that on the other side. There has been a Perkins 4 to Perkins 5 post-secondary credentials are to be linked to every single CTE class, in the build stage at the state level working on doing crosswalks.

Workforce Development:

Sector Relations Manager, Mindy Watson, presented to the group on Sector Strategy and efforts that are currently taking place to build Work-based Learning experiences with local employers and education partners. Michigan works supported two career fairs held by SMC, then are supporting four additional career fairs in the Tri-County Area. The Save The Date for Career Pathway Day is set for October 20th, 2023. Mindy also indicated that Michigan Works! BCBV will be receiving Transfr VR headsets that will provide career exploration and training opportunities for students and jobseekers. There is also a healthcare grant coming down the pipeline to build consortiums around healthcare. The MiCOACH grant was also presented. Per the grant Berrien RESA and MW!BCVB are looking to train 8 individuals from the 49022 zip code to become Behavioral Healthcare Workers.

Post-Secondary:

Dr. Karen Reilly thanked MW!BCVB for supporting the career fairs. Two were held, one at Dowagiac campus and one at the Niles campus. 100 employers and about 150 students and community members attended. Last night an open house was held on the Dowagiac campus to showcase degrees and career paths. There were about 75 individuals in attendance. Summer classes are doing well and reaching capacity, seeing an uptick in the trades, with room to grow in Robotics. SMC is starting a Welding associate degree program in the Fall. There are already 18 students enrolled and the program has not launched. Collaborating with Eagle Technologies and Hanson for pre-apprentice program taking classes in robotics and welding. At a higher level the state is looking to do away with developmental programs in math and reading. This Fall they are going to admit students with at least a 2.7 GPA will be allowed to go into college math classes. With appropriate support the college believes that their camps over the Summer will help students prepare for the classes in the Fall. Dr. Reilly discussed the MiLEAP grant and

how it was doing well. Bob Kara asked how to get into the job fairs at SMC? Dr. Reilly stated that she would connect his organizer with Melinda Stockwell.

Barbara Craig stated that her new role at the college is taking over career services and looking to rebuild the program. There is a job fair at Lake Michigan College just for manufacturing on April 18th and a general career fair on April 19th. Barbara stated that she liked the partnerships that taking place between colleges regarding career services and career fairs.

Employer Update:

Jay Baur from Eagle Technologies stated that they are booked out for the rest of the year and are very busy. Since last year they opened a third location, and the workforce is expanding. Eagle is looking to build talent through their apprenticeship program. They had an event the night before with about 50 families who had students interested in entering manufacturing after graduation. Jay stated that they are looking at having 10 apprentices to start in the Summer with the pre-apprenticeship program at SMC. Has been working with several high schools to build interest in manufacturing.

Parent Updates:

None

Additional Comments:

Mindy Watson, MW! BCVB Sector Relations Manager, provided the committee with updates on upcoming activities.

Buchanan High School Thursday April 19th 8am-3pm

Lake Michigan College Manufacturing Career Fair Wednesday, April 18th 4:30-6:30pm

Lake Michigan College General Career Fair Thursday, April 19th 1-5pm

Van Buren Tech. Center General Career Fair Tuesday, April 25th 8am-2:30pm

Van Buren Tech. Center Manufacturing Career Fair TBD

Next meeting will be held June 22nd, 2023. It will be held at the Michigan Works! building located at 499 W. Main Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022. A virtual option is available for attendees.