

Proposed Meeting Minutes

Career and Education Advisory Council

Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Location: DESC Offices, 115 Erskine, Detroit, MI 48201

Chair: Alycia Meriweather, Detroit Public Schools Community District

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

Attendees:

- Members – Alycia Meriweather, Maria Woodruff-Wright, Mark Gaffney, and Dr. Curtis Ivery, Monique Ellis, Diane Antishin,
- Staff – Dana Williams, Rachel May, Kevin Naud, and Robert Shimkoski

The meeting of the Career & Education Advisory Council was called to order at 3:08pm by Chairperson Meriweather.

Administrative Items

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Motion to accept by Dr. Ivery; seconded by Mr. Gaffney. Motion passed.

Purpose of CEAC

Chairperson Meriweather reviewed the purpose of CEAC: CEAC will bring education and business together by establishing a formal entity and mechanism to build and maintain a collaborative partnership, with local school districts, employers, postsecondary institutions, advocates, and training centers, to identify talent needs in their community and develop/implement training strategies to meet talent needs. Ms. Meriweather continued with an overview of the roles and responsibilities noting that CEAC shall advise the Mayor's Workforce Development Board regarding the educational portion of their WIOA Local Plan. Ms. Meriweather concluded her report with a look at CEAC metrics.

Roundtable Updates

- Dr. Ivery (WCCCD): No update.
- Diane Antishin (DTE Energy): In early stages of discussions with one of our key unions about creating an apprenticeship program for an entirely new classification of skilled work for Wind Technicians and we're changing the process related to the period of time when applicants can reapply for skilled trades work.
- Maria Woodruff-Wright (Skillman Foundation): The Skillman Foundation is reviewing things that young people need to be successful and looking to leaders across the city to advise on that direction.

- Robert Shimkoski (DESC): WIOA is up for reauthorization in front of congress, a bill passed the house and Education and Labor Committee, the important element was the definition of where money should go for WIOA. The new bill proposes that 70% of the funds for youth go to Opportunity Youth.
- Mark Gaffney: We're struggling at Wayne State to repeat our enrollment growth. Students have fallen between high school and college. Enrollment in public education across the state is down.
- Meriweather (DPSCD): We're partnering with GDYT again this summer and working to increase the number of apprenticeships and work-based learning opportunities offered to students.

In-Demand Occupations

Dana Williams, Chief Strategy Officer, Detroit at Work, offered a look at the workforce development system in Detroit, highlighting that it is built upon research and data. How the system operates reflects the high-demand, high-growth occupations. The system prepares folks for jobs, connects them to training providers and aligns with youth programs to create pipelines that feed into these high-demand occupations. Some of these occupations include truck drivers, healthcare, electricians, and carpenters.

Questions and comments from board members ensued.

Career Roadmaps for Youth

Chairperson Meriweather outlined an idea for a project or product that the committee would work together on to communicate to young people the opportunities available to them and the pathway to get there. Co-chair Maria Woodruff-Wright expressed the importance of showing young people the different options and opportunities.

Questions and comments from board members ensued.

Next Steps & Closing Remarks

- Pull data related to IT and Healthcare to identify which industry to build a career roadmap from.
- Collect ideas from each committee member about what should be included in the map.
- Next session to be a full work session on the map.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.