

\*Proposed Meeting Minutes\*

## Career and Education Advisory Council

Thursday, December 15 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, Shawn Hill, Mark Gaffney, Diane Antishin, Ron Stallworth
- Staff – Dana Williams, Rachel May, Chauncey Samuel, Stephanie Nixon, Misty Evans, Ericka Page, Kevin Naud, and Robert Shimkoski
- Guests – Dr. CharMaine Hines

The meeting of the Career & Education Advisory Council was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Chairperson Meriweather.

### **Approval of December Agenda and October Minutes**

### **Roundtable Updates**

- Diane Antishin (DTE Energy): Ms. Antishin shared that DTE has been a huge supporter of student programs, noting one of its biggest partners is Grow Detroit's Young Talent (GDYT). She noted challenges relevant to funding on-site programs. They're currently in the mode of exploring that program to shift it back to a previous model and noted that their commitment to GDYT is still strong as they pivot the process. They plan to continue to host the same number of jobs just through a different funding mechanism.
- Mark Gaffney: Wayne State & Henry Ford colleges have had a working relationship, and in December 2022 they entered into a new agreement that is much more developed. Under this new agreement, any time a student graduates from Henry Ford college with a 2-year degree, in almost all of their majors, that student is automatically enrolled in Wayne State University. This agreement is in place at Macomb and in Jackson. It's Wayne State's intention to take this plan to other community colleges.
- Ron Stallworth: At Southeastern High School, as an outgrowth of its investment and community benefits agreement, Stellantis launched the Advanced Manufacturing Program. Students have been participating for the past couple of years where they have engaged with Stellantis executives and received scholarships. The CTC portion of the investment made by Stellantis is still in the works. Notably one of the recent accomplishments is related to the launch of a Mechatronics Program at Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD), working with Dr. Curtis Ivery and his team. This program is a combination of electronics and mechanics. A \$10M donation of equipment from a Stellantis partner is being moved to WCCCD and a joint curriculum is

being developed. Anticipated launch date is Q2 of 2023. Positions in this skilled-trades field pay into the 6 figures.

- Dana Williams: Detroit at Work is expanding its role in the Tree Trim Academy, specifically with marketing and promoting to adults and youth, talking more intentionally with the students at Randolph as a potential career path. Detroit at Work has established a more formal communication pathway with folks at the state regarding Michigan Reconnect, having more intentional conversations with adults in the system who have interest in post-secondary education not just for training but for longer 2 and 4-year degrees. Detroit at Work will reestablish its evening courses with the CTE schools, focusing first on two pathways: restaurant manager training/hospitality at Breithaupt; construction pathways at Randolph with two specific programs Residential Renovator and Building Maintenance Technician.

Questions and comments from board members ensued

### **Presentation: DPSCD Career Academies**

Shaun Hill provided an update on the DPSCD career academies. Since Ms. Hill has been onboard at the district in 2019, they've increased enrollment by 1000 students in their career pathways. She noted its 62 programs are representative of 23 high schools and 3 career tech centers in categories such as Business & Finance/Marketing; Health Sciences; Technology & Media Arts; Law & Public Safety Education; Engineering, Manufacturing & Transportation; Construction; Service Industries; Agricultural Food & Natural Resources. New programs are scheduled to launch in the 2022-2023 school year including Therapeutic Services (CNA), Public Leadership, Public Safety and Line Worker.

Highlights from these programs include: At its Ham Radio Club, students talked live with someone on the International Space Station (ISS), an event exclusive to select schools across the country. This conversation took place while the ISS was in motion and was coordinated by students to align accordingly. It was a big deal for the district and its students.

The Detroit Pistons have partnered with Martin Luther King High School for the Sports Marketing & Medicine Program. They have agreed to a year-long program that provides thirty students with one-on-one mentors. In this program they address change in the community.

At the district's recent Employee Engagement Breakfast a highlighted goal noted across all of their programs that its students have work-based learning activities and opportunities that range from guest speakers, job shadows, mentorship projects, to eventually internships and apprenticeships. To date, they've had almost 2000 students participate in a variety of work-based learning opportunities that include Wayne Counties Manufacturing Day, Sachse Construction Day, DTE Energy Day.

Each of the district's 62 programs have Pathway Advisory Board Members. These are community members that support the programs and its students to help make sure industry standards are met. The district plans a board engagement and training activity in January and a student conference in February that will target 200 twelfth graders with career planning and

training opportunities. A Career Tech Center is planned for January and February that will focus on tenth and eleventh graders and something similar with eighth graders is in the works. Finally, a spring internship is planned targeting 200 students.

Questions and comments from board members ensued.

**Discussion: Connecting Career Academy Strategies to Youth Employment Opportunities**

Chauncey Samuel, Manager of Fund Development and Employer Engagement for Grow Detroit's Young Talent (GDYT) provided an update on the 2023 GDYT Program, noting its goal to serve over 8000 youth with industry-led training and pre-apprenticeship training program planning underway for the 2023 program. She noted the continued work DPSCD, partners and employers to ensure a viable impact for the youth in these summer work experiences.

Ericka Page, Director of Youth Services, Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation gave a brief update on its WIOA year-round youth program noting substantial growth from 5 to 9 providers, with a more intent focus on opportunity youth. Its programs are designed to afford students an opportunity to earn a credential in skilled-trades as well as attain their high school diploma or equivalency. They're exploring new career sectors such as electrical vehicles with an investment in virtual reality equipment.

Questions and comments from board members ensued.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was given.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Ron Stallworth, seconded by Mark Gaffney. Approved.  
Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.