

\*Proposed Meeting Minutes\*

## Career and Education Advisory Council

Monday, October 24 at 11 a.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, Mark Gaffney, Diane Antishin,
- Staff – Dana Williams, Rachel May, Kevin Naud, and Robert Shimkoski
- Guests – Dr. CharMaine Hines

The meeting of the Career & Education Advisory Council was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Chairperson Meriweather.

### **Roundtable Updates**

- Alycia Meriweather (DPSCD): The districts work continues around Career Academies as we continue to build those out at our high schools. We're trying to strengthen the model to include teachers and increase work-based learning. With Covid, there are still several students off track to graduate, that restricts the number of students that can go to career tech and work. Those are the focus areas. We hope to see an increase in work-based learning and an increase in students going to career tech.
- Mark Gaffney: State of Michigan has freed up funding, more than we've had before. This will allow more outreach to adult learners. An agreement between Henry Ford Community College and U-M Dearborn is forthcoming, where they have identified automatic enrollment in the four-year school based on the two-year experience. That type of agreement will push us at Wayne State and others in Michigan to do the same thing. Colleges must meet students where they are. In addition, we're talking to Unions with a goal to take their apprentices and attach them to four-year universities for potential associates degrees or college credits.
- Dr. CharMaine Hines (WCCCD): Shadowing the Chancellor, Dr. Ivery. Stressed the importance of literacy rates nationwide, noting a lot of interest externally in working with the adult learner population. In addition to WCCCD's GED program, we're offering micro credentials which lead students into job-ready programs. We're upskilling in areas where there are deficits. Looking at industry positions. Some programs that have been successful are Construction, CDL/Commercial Driving, Robotics and Electronics. Huge investment and announcement where we're going to be doing training in those areas.
- Diane Antishin (DTE Energy): Excited about DTE's recent participation in the Careers in Energy event, which is a statewide initiative and partnership across 50 different municipalities, schools and organizations to raise awareness of the careers in the energy

industry. Over 200 students from Chandler Park Academy, Ecorse School, Hamtramck, Osborn High School, Oakland Schools Technical Center, Pershing, Randolph and River Rouge came onsite to our campus to explore hands-on displays of the career opportunities available, including Overhead Line, Underground Lines, Sub Stations, Gas Technicians, Accounting, IT, HR, Communications and others. Students rotated through these hands-on activities at DTE to experience the corporate setting and engage with our employees. We also had onsite our Mobile Energy Trailer which is designed to do what we did onsite but it's able to travel to schools and features a variety of interactive activities.

### **Industry & Occupation Brochures: IT**

Dana Williams, Chief Strategy Officer, Detroit at Work, discussed how complex the workforce development systems is for jobseekers, noting the Detroit at Work team has identified seven high-demand/high-growth industries and are working towards creating career pathway brochures for those industries and occupations. Her team has identified IT as a career path most sought after by students and plans to restructure these pathways (that were initially designed for adults) to better suit the needs of young people.

Questions and comments from board members ensued.

### **Next Steps & Closing Remarks**

- Youth Perspective
  - Established groups to engage
  - Collecting, analyzing, and sharing feedback
  - CEAC Meeting participation

### **Public Comment**

No public comment was given.

Meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.