

Members present: Lisa Bartell, Jill Bland, Tom Buszek, Dave Campbell, Deb Coates, Amy Doxtater, Kevin Hollenbeck, Craig Howard, Debra Kolberg, Tim Kyle, Krieg Lee, Brian Long, Jason Luke, Deb Miller, Keevin O'Neill, Jim Robey, Chris Rohwer, Larry Schlack, Mark Schuppel, Jim Sertic, Rachel Smith, Tim St. Onge, Dominic Zanoni

I. Welcome/Introductions

Jim Sertic welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Announcements/Minutes

The minutes from the February 2016 meeting were distributed and reviewed. Dave Maurer moved to accept the minutes; seconded by Chris Rohwer. The minutes were approved as is.

III. Legislative Update

Dave Campbell reported on the state of the State of Michigan. Several big picture items were mentioned: the state budget, 400 million dollars short right now, price of gas has been lower which doesn't help government revenues, extra spending is at risk, House Bill 6453 relaxes some of the MMC requirements. A career readiness study looked at the funding structure of the whole career readiness structure and is being analyzed. The report has just been completed and delivered to the MI Dept. of Education. It has not yet been released for review. Another report was just released that showed no improvement in student achievement areas. Michigan remains in 42nd place in the country. This does not mean that MI is decreasing, rather other states are improving and MI is not moving forward, but is staying stagnant. MMC was briefly discussed; some areas of requirement might be changed to allow for more CTE opportunities. Algebra II continues to be a struggle for students. The pros and cons of testing students was also discussed. There is more to evaluating the success of a student than test scores. Testing seems to stifle the creativity of students.

IV. Advisory Committee Updates

Jim Sertic stated that he has spent this year visiting as many advisory meetings as possible. He reported: visiting 17 of the 22 committees, wonderful teachers and KRESA facilitators. He is very impressed with these committees. Many EFE programs have room for more student enrollment; some EFE programs have a waiting list. Once students are enrolled in an EFE program, they are very engaged and have a high interest in attending and participating. He noted that counselors should make sure to enroll the right students in these programs. Students need to be made aware of the FREE opportunities for EFE programs and the options of EMC opportunities. MiCareerQuest (MCQ) is a great example of the collaborative effort between business and education. Partnership with KVCC is strong. EFE and Co-op should be looked at as favorable by enrollment of higher ed institutions. Each program has a great number of underrepresented students in each program. Good diversity in all EFE programs.

Advisory Committee Chair updates:

Tim Kyle, Teacher Academy, reported the second year of this program has been a great success. Mentor teachers have great experiences with student interns. Program evaluation was recently completed. High degree of success; 56 students enrolled, 6 dropped. 50 enrolled this year. 95% are passing; 75% plan to pursue teaching as a career. EFE provides opportunities for students to investigate what career they want to pursue in college.

Dave Mauer stated the Computer Manufacturing program review was completed. The program is full this year and is likely full for next school year. A world class lab has been installed for this program; which helps draw students. Thank you to Vicksburg High School administration and many businesses, including Stryker, Humphrey Products and others, for helping get all equipment installed and ready to use. Finding ways to expand the program will be a challenge. All of these programs have a waiting list for next year.

Tim St. Onge stated BMA/Accounting had a program review this year. PN teachers reported that counselors at Portage continue to stifle CTE opportunities for Portage students. This is very disappointing to hear. Deb Miller explained that a domino effect happens when 4-year universities do not accept or value the CTE experience on a high school transcript. This can cause pushback to enrollment in CTE.

Craig Howard stated Construction Trades teacher, Brian Segraves, is doing a great job; students enjoy his teaching. Recruiting for construction continues to be a struggle. Students made benches this year again for the Home Show; raffle proceeds go to the scholarship fund. An inventory of tools was conducted; new tools are needed. The shortage of new employees in the construction industry continues and we need to continue to draw students to this industry. A brief discussion took place regarding MCQ. An earlier date of MCQ is being planned for next school year, which

may help draw students to see all the career opportunities available to them. A date for MCQ will be decided in June. Dominic Zanoni reported the topics discussed at the IT advisory meeting were internet securities, school filtering and requirements for this program. A discussion was held about how to increase IT program presence at MCQ to draw students to this industry. Getting students engaged and interested in IT is needed. Hackers, or capture the flag, are ideas that Dominic might be able to help facilitate. A roadmap to show how entry level positions lead to great IT positions should be developed to help students understand what opportunities are available to them. The program needs updated equipment, apple computers, etc. Opening a third section is desired; only two sections exist now. Health Sciences, Karen Robyn, reported that all health programs have great enrollment and all of these programs are linked to EMC. 61 students are on the wait list for next year. The health programs are being moved this summer to the KVCC Texas Township campus. Over 175 parents and students attended the orientation this week. Hopefully the relocation to KVCC will allow these programs to expand.

Law Enforcement will also be relocating to KVCC next year. The teacher is a KDPS officer. Physical fitness is a struggle for many students and is one item that is being worked on in the classroom. Jim Sertic thanked KVCC for the strong partnership with EFE.

Lisa Bartell reported for HRTM, Culinary Arts and Marketing. She noted the increase of minimum wage has resulted in a decrease of employees because students can make more money elsewhere. They expressed a desire to reevaluate their wages so they can keep good employees. OPRA training was added this year, which is a front desk training tool; it is a very transferable skill for students. Culinary Arts has added the serve safe allergen training to the program. Some scholarships for culinary students are available. HRTM annual trip to Disney theme park is a highlight for students and allows them to learn about how large organizations function in this industry. The Marketing program discussed the new branding of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. New marketing techniques were also discussed, such as social media, YouTube, websites, etc. Suggestions for MCQ media kits were made by Sarah Morgan. Providing networking for businesses at MCQ was also discussed.

V. Outstanding Senior Awards Update

Deb Miller noted it was another great year; 86 students were nominated this year. Teachers are not required to nominate a student. Great job by all who were involved and participated. It was noted to keep the student comments and speakers. Better communication to the parents might be considered as some parents don't understand what a big deal this event is. This is an event that many business and industry members will not miss.

VI. STEM Update

Debra Kolberg reported that 17 schools, 42 teachers, over 7,000 students have been affected this year. Next year, Parchment Middle school will be added. This means all middle schools in the county will be participating in PLTW. The STEM showcase was held May 13th; 7 districts, over 100 students participated. Two elementary schools, four middle schools and two high schools participated. Vicksburg High School robot baseball team came and showed the robots they built that can throw a ball and use a bat. A shopvac was redesigned to be the "ball boy." Thank you to all who participated in this event.

VII. EFE Enrollment and Special Pops Report

Two handouts were distributed to the council and explained in detail by Deb Miller. The Special Populations report shows that a small drop occurred from 14-15. EFE strives to serve all students. Twelfth grade continues to be our greatest enrollment. Gender and non-trad numbers were also briefly discussed. Jill Bland asked a question regarding how our stats compare to local district numbers. Deb will investigate and report back at the fall meeting. Krieg Lee asked about enrollment numbers for which programs; Deb will also bring this info to the October meeting. Jim Sertic stated that a Kalamazoo Gazette article this week shows public school enrollment has been down for several years. Some EFE programs, Marketing/Account/BMA, can affect overall EFE enrollment due to retirements and districts not replacing those teachers/classes. Teacher credentials play a role in being allowed to teach EFE programs. A question was raised as to how supportive is the MDE of CTE. Dave Campbell reported that they are opposed to changing MMC to allow more opportunities of CTE to students.

VIII. Members' Time

Jim Robey commented on ASCE, business outlook, etc... Please contact Jim at robey@upjohn.org for more information. Largest occupation need is for drivers; middle skilled jobs are also very needed. Soft skills continues to be a need by employers and should be addressed with all students in all EFE programs. Thank you to Deb, Jim and Kathy for all your work on this council.

A handout of dates for 2016-17 EFE council meetings was distributed.