

**CAREER & EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEAC)
MINUTES**

**September 13, 2024; 1:00 P.M.
Lapeer County Education and Technology Center
690 N. Lake Pleasant Rd., Lapeer, MI 48446**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm by Chair Charmian Fletcher.

Allard, Diana/ Amy Hoeksema – Genesee ISD	X	Lietz, Lindsay – ZF Group	
Barry, Ray – GST Michigan Works	X	Mosier, Brianna/ Amy Watts – Flint & Genesee Education & Talent	X
Dr. Myszenski, Rebecca – Mott Community College		Napier, Troy – Baker College Owosso	X
Fletcher, Charmian – Shiawassee RESD	X	Pavlichek, Lee – Tuscola ISD, TCC Principal / CTE Director	X
Franks, Dale – Shiawassee RESD		Prill, Yvonne – Scheurer Health	X
Grimes, Dayonte – Lapeer Community Schools	X	Shelton, Mary – Family Literacy Center	
Hipes, Howard – Michigan Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Training Center	X	Terry, Verona – Flint Genesee Job Corps Center	X
Langenburg, Brad – MI-Tech Tool		Walker, Lane – Huron Area Technical Center	X
Balcer, Kay – Thumb Community Healthy Partnership, Director		Konarski, Ann - Lapeer County CAN	
Brieger, Paul – SRES/CCRC, CTE Dean of Students, Instructional Couch		Lewis-Jennings, Tracie – Michigan Rehabilitation Services	X
Gandhi, Nick – Economic Analyst, State of Michigan		Mathews, Robert – Mott Community College	
Granz, Kari – Thumb Community Health Partnership, Program Coordinator	X	Mosher, Dawn – Lapeer ISD, Manager of Assessment, Data & Instructional Services	X
Green, Tanya – Shiawassee RESD		Najor, Tony – Principal Lapeer ISD, Ed Tech Center	X
Guzman, Rey – Business Services Representative, State of Michigan		Nelson, Deb – Sanilac ISD	X
Dr. Jackson, Madonna – Mott Community College Dean of Technology Division	X	Thayer, Lory – Shiawassee RESD	
Keenan-Lechel, Sarah – Genesee ISD	X	Walworth, Corrine – Genesee ISD	X
Kerbyson, Jody – GST Michigan Works	X	Zagorski, Kristen – Huron ISD - MiSTEM Director for Huron, Sanilac & Tuscola counties	X

An X indicates present members.

Staff present were Jody Kerbyson, Sharon Bowen, Sheila Rock, Cindy Thornthwaite, and Stephanie Polmanteer.

II. Action Items

a. **Approval of minutes of previous meeting (*attached*)**

Member Troy Napier moved to approve minutes of March 8, 2024, meeting. Member Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion. Chair Fletcher called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

III. Introductions

Members of the council and other attendees introduced themselves.

IV. Updates

a. Adult Education – No updates available

b. CTE & CCAN

- Genesee County –

Corrine Walworth with GCCCAN provided handouts for all members highlighting the State's Michigan Achievement Scholarship and Community College Guarantee programs available to graduating high school seniors to aid them in continuing their education. Corrine also provided information about the latest GISD initiative, focusing on career and college training for students. Through the brainstorming process, a website was created for the students that will serve as an all-in-one resource point for career planning after high school. The website will be launching the week of September 16th, 2024. She shared that a more in-depth digital college guide is also available to the students that can walk the students through the steps for applying for FASFA, Genesee Opportunity as well as scholarship tips.

Amy Hoeksema with Genesee County CTE shared that they are partnering with Mott Community College (MCC) in HVAC, welding and electrical programs. This partnership allows students who would otherwise be on a waiting list for those programs at the Genesee Career Institute (GCI) to attend training at MCC. GCI and MCC have worked to remove a barrier in this partnership and have developed a means of transportation for the students to attend the off-site training. Amy reported that the early middle college program enrollment is up to 160 students and GCI enrollment is at 1,922 students. She announced that the 911 Dispatch program at GCI has started in partnership with Genesee County 911 Dispatch. The students will be learning the same system the county uses. This will increase their employability skills with certifications upon graduation. The Fire Academy is also full this year and requires three sessions and a full-time instructor. Last, Amy announced that the Genesee County CTE is planning to hold STEM career camps next summer for 9th and 10th graders.

- Huron County –

Lane Walker with the Huron Area Technical Center shared that their Commercial Drivers License (CDL) program had 50 students graduate this year, up from an average of 30. He reported that the tech center now has four programs that have direct concurrent enrollment credits upon completion. The tech center has partnered with Mid-Michigan Community College and Alpena Community College for these programs to help bridge the gap for secondary and postsecondary education.

- Lapeer County –

Tony Najor shared updates for the Lapeer County CTE. He reported that 800 students enrolled this year, an increase of approximately 80 students from last year. He noted that out of the 18 programs they offer, all but 3 had a waiting list at the start of the year. They hope to address the waiting lists to prevent students from missing out on programs. Tony was happy to announce that this year they were able to partner with Lapeer County EMS in creating an EMT program for the CTE students. This year there are 15 students from the nursing, medical and public safety programs that will be taking part in the EMT program. The program includes 30 weeks of work-based learning at the Lapeer County EMS three days a week. Students that maintain a 75% or higher in the program will receive certifications that will benefit employment opportunities in the medical field and be qualified to pass the state EMS exam.

Dawn Mosher, with the Lapeer ISD reported that the Instructional Services and Adult Education Departments have recently merged and been renamed Educational Services. Dawn sits as Director of Educational Services and announced some changes for the merged branches. One policy change has restructured the school year into a year-long session to discontinue semesters, as it pertained more to grade school students. This change allows students to enroll at any time in the year without having to wait for a starting semester, increasing enrollment by 29 students since July. Lab hours and marketing strategies are also being restructured to encompass the new opportunities through Educational Services. Dawn reported that the Early College program currently has a total of 107 students enrolled. The Early College program consists of traditional and blended students. The blended students can participate in a CTE program as well as early college classes for their 13th year, while the traditional students attend a CTE program for only half the day.

Dayonte Grimes provided updates for Lapeer's K-12 School District. He shared that the high school houses their Mechatronics program, an Education Technology program, within their high school to allow greater accessibility to the program without cutting their other classroom hours for off-site travel. He announced that they have recently started a K12 initiative, providing Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Engineering, Computer-Aided Design (CAD) Engineering and robotics classes to their K-12 students. The goal for this initiative is to introduce career knowledge and skills to students early, when exploring is still a key part of their learning process. Dayonte shared that the district partnered with GSTMW to provide courses for their adult education students, courses such as FANUC levels I and II, and Infrared Vision (IR Vision) certification. They are looking to partner with Skilled US which would provide sponsorship to students to help fund their education. Last year, 13 of the 16 graduating seniors were working or scheduled to work in this industry upon graduation. Over the summer, STEM camps were held for the elementary school students. A career day is currently in the works for the middle school students where they plan to utilize a robotics trailer to introduce robotics and other careers in that field. He also announced that he is in collaboration with Steve Kress, Lapeer County Probation officer, to develop a program for at risk youth as well.

Ann Konarski was not able to attend the meeting, however, she did provide the following updates to be shared in her absence. The Pathway Partnership Planning Grant is underway, and the Lapeer LCAN has partnered with the Lapeer County ISD – Adult Education, GST Michigan Works!, 4 County Community Foundation, and Choice One Bank. The three focuses of the grant include local and regional data deep dive, creation and publication of a podcast,

and the creation and publication of an online resource hub. Ann shared information that a college tour is scheduled at Michigan State University on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 for 40 students. A talent tour is also scheduled at Hurley Medical Center – Flint on Friday, February 21, 2025, for CTE Nursing and Medical Career students for 101 students.

- Sanilac County –
Deb Nelson reported that Sanilac County CTE enrollment is also up from previous years, they currently have 405 students enrolled. Their focus is skilled certifications upon completion of the program to create more employment and college education opportunities for the students. The county's superintendent, Duane Lange, will be retiring in December, a replacement has not yet been announced. Deb shared that the Construction program at the CTE is proving to be very popular among students. The program has students building two houses through work-based learning with contractors this year as part of their curriculum. The homes that are built are available for customers, the program currently has homes booked for the next five years.
- Shiawassee County –
Charmian Fletcher reported current enrollment of 154 early college students, 205 dual enrolled students, and 225 CTE students. CTE enrollment this year is up from 131 last year. She announced that one in three juniors and seniors in the county are enrolled in one of the programs, an increase from one in four and one in five the two years prior. It is believed the numbers are steadily increasing now that the CTE is offering transportation for their early morning classes, removing a large barrier of limited parking at the center. They are also offering U of M-Flint classes on campus. Scheduling for the class was tied into the new transportation system to increase availability for more in-person training. Charmian shared that the CTE's new Heavy Equipment program is very popular. The program partners with AIS Construction Equipment so students can receive certification upon completion of the course. The program's popularity required the center to schedule two sessions as opposed to one which has been the standard for new programs.
- Tuscola County–
Lee Pavlichek reports higher enrollment numbers as well at the Tuscola area CTE. The center started its year with 730 students, 17 programs, 8 of which were full. Currently, the district has 60% of juniors and seniors taking part in CTE programs. They have pushed industry-based certifications for students to receive upon graduation. Many graduating seniors are passing industry exams for further certification and licensing shortly after graduation. They recently added a fourth Agricultural Science Future Farmers of America (FFA) program as well as a new Fire Fighter Academy program in partnership with Delta College. The Fire Fighter Academy program will provide fire fighter level I and II, hazmat and first-aid/CPR certifications upon completion, giving students greater employment opportunities after graduation. Students who complete the program will be eligible to take the state certification test at 18 years of age. Lee notes that the county's adult CNA and CMA programs are also having a good success rate. Lastly, he announced that Sanilac County's Community Education Director was able to receive a grant to fund English as a Second Language (ESL) training that can be used throughout the region including Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac and Lapeer counties.

c. MiSTEM

- **Region 6 (I-69 region) –**
Sarah Keenan-Lechel stated that the region’s year will be starting on October 1st and their focus will continue to be project, problem and place-based learning. Over the summer, they held a Project-Based Learning (PBL) design workshop for the teachers to brainstorm learning techniques to take back to the classroom. They’ve also continued to build capacity within their teachers by supporting them with facilitation coaches to guide them in additional techniques for delivering their teachings to students in a way that increases engagement and retention. STEM teacher tours this last year included a water treatment plant in Columbiaville, McLaren Hospital and the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, located in East Lansing. Sarah shared a new learning series called Engaging Community Partners to help teachers dive deeper into learning methods that benefit both fellow teachers and students alike.

- **Region 7 (Mid-Michigan region) –**
Charmian Fletcher announced the MiSTEM fiscal agent for region will be changing by October 1st and she hopes an update will be available at the next meeting regarding the outcome. She was able to share some information on what MiSTEM has done in Shiawassee County over the last few months. Over the summer the district held its first summer camp for middle school students at the career center with focuses on health science and public safety. Approximately two dozen students attended the camp and were able to earn their CPR certifications. Charmian announced that the county is planning to hold Manufacturing Day events on October 7th and 9th with local employers, focusing on skilled trades. Also, in November this year, 10th graders will be invited to visit the career center during its career pathway expo days. The students will get an opportunity to take part in each classroom with the instructors for a hands-on activity and learn requirements for enrollment into the programs. She shared that this year they will conduct their first 8th grader career pathway expo as well, in hopes to spark the student’s enthusiasm to raise their GPAs for a chance to enroll in a program.

- **Region 11 (Upper Thumb region) –**
Kristen Zagorski reported that over the summer, the region had a design summit event that focused on PBL. There were 18 teachers in the region who attended to review content areas for various grade levels. She shared that a high priority for the region is to build a teacher leader network to increase capacity and sustainability in the programs. Currently, only one of the three counties in the region has a consultant to assist teachers, K through 12, with leadership skills to help them become facilitators in their curriculum. In turn, this would provide an in-house training network for the region’s teachers. Kristen also shared information about the region’s career exploration initiatives. In May, the region hosted their county-wide career fairs. Tuscola County had over 1,100 students, and 116 staff chaperones in attendance. Huron County had 620 students attend with 72 staff members, and in Sanilac County, 795 students and 82 staff members attended. She mentioned that the events were funded in-part with the help of GSTMW. Lastly, Kristen announced that the region is looking to coordinate STEM day camps for 8th-11th grade students in the future.

d. Skilled Trades/Apprenticeships –

Cindy Thornthwaite reported that GSTMW’s apprenticeship program is currently holding standards for 37 employers with an additional 12 in the works. As of now, there are 50 apprentices in the program with another 20 in the process of joining the program.

e. GST Agency Updates –

Jody Kerbyson shared that GSTWM recently purchased Virtual Reality (VR) headsets from the company Transfr, that are all equipped with several career exploration programs. The agency was able to use the headsets for a special construction pre-employment pilot program (PEP) with students from the Flint & Genesee Job Corps. The students were able to participate in the pilot program in tandem with the GSTMW Young Professionals program. After participating in the Construction PEP, those students were able to participate in a work-based learning experience with a local construction company. This partnership and pre-employment training concluded with five students being hired by the employer and enrolling in union apprenticeships. The agency is looking forward to partnering with the region's educators to utilize its newest form of career exploration through career fairs and other career exploration events across the regions. Jody provided handouts that further explained the simulations and features of the technology.

f. GST Youth Programs –

Ray Barry shared that the Young Professional funds assisted youth in a variety of ways this year. In addition to work experience, youth were also able to participate in financial literacy workshops with ELGA Credit Union, a youth Mental Health workshop with Genesee Health Systems, Workplace Excellence classes and acquire their CPR certifications. Staff provided the youth with a resume workshop and were assisted with understanding job descriptions and creating resumes tailored to potential work.

In the Thumb counties, 32 youth were placed in 24 varying sectors of employment, including production, social services, veterinary care and healthcare. Five youth were placed in rural healthcare settings with competitive wages and the potential for full time, direct-hire following completion of their work experiences. Four of them also received CMA/CNA certifications sponsored through WIOA prior to their work experiences.

g. Career Exploration Subcommittee –

Jessica Billiau was not able to attend the meeting, however Jody Kerbyson shared that Jessica will be providing information about the upcoming MiCareerQuest East via email.

h. Regional Career Outlooks –

Nick Gandhi, Economic Analyst with Michigan Center for Data and Analytics, was not able to attend, however, he provided a report that the new 2022-2032 Long-Term Occupation and Industry Employment Projections for the State of Michigan are expected to be released in late September 2024. The regional projections will be updated in 2025. The statewide population projections were released earlier this year and can be accessed through the link in today's agenda. The demography team hopes to release the long-term population projections through 2050 later this year.

V. Other Updates/Comments

• Mott Community College (MCC) –

Dr. Madonna Jackson reported that last year the institution brought 40 GCI students into the HVAC program at MCC. While attending, the students were able to earn 8 college credits to put toward their future schooling. Of the 40 students, 19 of them were able to return this year and will earn a total of 16 college credits, equaling nearly an entire first year equivalent in credits by the end of the program. Enrollment at GCI was exceptionally high for multiple programs this year. MCC offered to hold classes on campus for students who would have otherwise not been able to


participate in the program. The additional programs held at MCC included welding and electrical. Students in any of these programs will be eligible to earn college credits while attending the programs. She announced that MCC's Building and Construction Management program is now available and students taking building and construction programs at any of the region's CTE centers can be awarded 10 college credits in that program. Dr. Jackson mentioned that more information about the Credit to Prior Learning program will be given at MCC's College Night event on October 17th. She also shared that by the end of the academic year MCC will be a certified AWS testing facility available for anyone to use. It will be the region's closest location to do such testing. She reported that MCC's Credit for Prior Learning program allows students to earn credit for prior learning in a variety of ways. Students submit their third-party credentials through an application process which is then reviewed by an industry expert to approve those credentials as college credits. This program has been very successful in the technology field at MCC and has driven the institution to expand on it. They are now working to expand the same Credit for Prior Learning opportunity in Health and Human Services and Culinary Arts as well.

- **Job Corps –**
Verona Terry announced that they recently had approximately 116 students graduate from the center. Verona mentioned that the students attending the center typically vary in age from 16-24 years of age with many of the students residing on campus. Some of the programs they offer include masonry, CNA, homeland security, office administration, medical assistant, some trades learning through MCC and other educational classes for students to obtain a GED or diploma. She also extended an invitation to the center's Community Relations Council Meeting for an opportunity to learn what Job Corps has done in the last quarter.
- **Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)–**
Tracie Lewis-Jennings shared that through inter-transfer cash agreements with many of the school districts in attendance at the meeting, MRS can assist out-of-school students from the ages of 14-26 who have a disability, with aid to attend post-secondary training. She also stated that MRS will assist the schools in helping any IEP students who wish to attend the upcoming GSTMW MiCareerQuest event, as well. Tracie also announced that MRS is currently working to expand their pre-employment transition services into more counties to assist those with disabilities in gaining transitional skills.
- **Thumb Community Health Partnership –**
Kari Granz announced that the organization received a portion of the Michigan Reconnect Outreach Grant in May from MCAN to promote the project in the region. She provided materials to help advertise Michigan Reconnect and explained that the organization is working diligently to market the program for the region. She also mentioned that through their employer-led collaborative, local health care organizations and education providers are focusing on workforce development for health and human services careers in the Thumb region. She invited any education providers in the room who were interested in joining the collaborative to reach out to the Thumb Community Health Partnership for more information.

VI. Adjournment

Since there was no further business to discuss, Chair Fletcher called the meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond Barry, Secretary
Stephanie Polmanteer, Administrative Specialist



Raymond Barry, Secretary

11/1/24

Date