



**CAREER & EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEAC)  
MINUTES  
March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 1:00 P.M.  
Lapeer County Education and Technology Center**

**I. Call to Order**

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

Allard, Diana/Amy Hoeksema- Genesee ISD		Mosier, Brianna/Amy Watts – Flint & Genesee Education & Talent	X
Barry, Ray – GST Michigan Works	X	Napier, Troy - Baker College Owosso	
Dr. Madonna Jackson - Mott Community College	X	Pavlichek, Lee – Tuscola ISD	X
Fletcher, Charmian - Shiawassee RESD	X	Prill, Yvonne – Scheurer Health	
Grimes, Dayonte - Lapeer Community Schools	X	Shelton, Mary – Family Literacy Center	X
Hipes, Howard - Michigan Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Training Center	X	Stiles, Casie – Shiawassee RESD	X
Langenburg, Brad - MI-Tech Tool	X	Terry, Verona - Flint Genesee Job Corps Center	X
Lietz, Lindsay - ZF Group		Walker, Lane - Huron Area Technical Center	X
Balcer, Kay – Thumb Community Health Partnership		Konarski, Ann – Lapeer County CAN	X
Brieger, Paul – Shiawassee RESD		Lewis-Jennings, Tracie – Michigan Rehabilitation Services	X
Cowhy, Dawn – Lapeer ISD	X	Mattews, Robert – Mott Community College	
Gandhi, Nick – Economic Analyst, State of Michigan		Mosher, Dawn – Lapeer ISD	
Granz, Kari – Thumb Community Health Partnership		Nelson, Deb – Sanilac ISD	X
Green, Tanya – Shiawassee RESD		Walworth, Corrine - Genesee ISD	
Guzman, Rey – Business Services Representative, State of Michigan		Zagorski, Kristen - Huron ISD - MiSTEM Director for Huron, Sanilac & Tuscola counties	
Keenan-Lechel, Sarah – Genesee ISD	X		

An X indicates present members.

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

**II. Action Items**

- a. Approval of the minutes of the November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 meeting with the addition of Amy Watts who attended as an alternate for Brianna Mosier.**

Ray Barry moved to approve the minutes with the addition. Mary Shelton supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

**b. Approval of the 25-26 Perkins Grant Application for Region 11**

Region 11 includes Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac and Tuscola counties and has a proposed funding allocation of \$425,151.00. Ray Barry moved to approve the application as presented. Verona Terry supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

**c. Approval of the 25-26 Perkins Grant Application for Region 15**

Region 15 includes Shiawassee and Genesee counties with a proposed funding allocation of \$1,404,988.00. Lee Pavlichek moved to approve the application as presented. Ray Barry supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

**d. Approval of the Strategic Plan for MiSTEM Region 6 (I-69 Region)**

The I-69 region is focusing on four major strategies.

- 1.) Transform STEM learning with innovative and integrated Problem, Project, and Place-based learning (3P) instructional opportunities.
- 2.) Create business-community-education STEM partnerships.
- 3.) Build equitable, inclusive change by investing STEM resources and opportunities in places with demonstrated need.
- 4.) Scale STEM successes in our regions related to MiSTEM goals and culture.

Ray Barry moved to approve the plan as presented. Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

**e. Approval of the Strategic Plan for MiSTEM Region 7 (Mid-Michigan Region)**

No representative was present at the meeting. No plan was presented for approval.

**f. Approval of the Strategic Plan for MiSTEM Region 11 (Upper Thumb Region)**

The Upper Thumb Regions region is focusing on four major strategies.

- 1.) Engage in community and industry partnerships to promote career exploration and showcasing STEM.
- 2.) Develop opportunities for students that promote equity, increase STEM identity, increase student voice and provide high quality STEM experiences.
- 3.) Develop and support a communications and marketing strategy that lifts up best practices.
- 4.) Support the effort to increase student achievement and statewide testing, by promoting continued learning and professional development opportunities for teachers across the region.

Lee Pavlichek moved to approve the plan as presented. Dr. Madonna Jackson supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

### III. Updates

a. Adult Education – Mary Shelton provided updates about funding changes effecting adult and family literacy providers under the WIOA Title II Adult Education Family Literacy Act. She also shared that the Family Literacy Center is partnered with the Tuscola Technology Center to provide English as a Second Language (ESL) services throughout the region.

#### b. CTE & CCAN

- Genesee County – Corrine Walworth was not able to attend the meeting. She provided flyers in advance, which were included in the agenda packet, containing information about Genesee County Career and College Access Network (GCCCAN) and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that were included in the agenda packet for council members.
- Huron County – Lane Walker announced that the county now has a full-time instructor for their career readiness training program, which is going into its third year. Last year they held a “Get Hired” day for the program’s students. This year, the event will be held at the Bad Axe K of C Hall on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Lane also provided a brief update about their Commercial Driver’s License program.
- Lapeer County – Ann Konarski announced that the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) has awarded funding for adult education. She also shared that the Lapeer County College Access Network (LCAN) is in collaboration with the Intermediate School District (ISD) Adult Education, Choice One Bank, and GSTMW! on a pathway partnership grant they were awarded from the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN). Imlay City Middle School students were able to take part in a career exploration event with GSTMW! where students used the agency’s Transfr virtual reality headsets to learn about in-demand careers. Lapeer County CTE nursing and medical career students recently attended a talent tour at Hurley. The next talent tour will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> at the DTE Energy Pinnebog Wind Park in Bad Axe. The Blue Water Building Trades Career Fair will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> and they’re using a GSTMW! mini grant for Career Exploration to transport the students to the event.

Dayonte Grimes provided a brief update about the Lapeer High School robotics students. Several students are working to receive their forklift certification. He also shared that a group of students are working to become entrepreneurs creating their own business.

- Sanilac County – Deb Nelson announced that the Career Center hosted a Health Career Exploration event in partnership with Thumb Community Health. She also shared that the Engineering Design program students participated in a Baja competition and finished in second place. Lastly, Deb reported that Sanilac County has a new Superintendent, Katie VanConant.

- Shiawassee County – Casie Stiles provided updates about recent events that took place at the CTE. Charmian Fletcher announced that the “What’s Next” event will be held at the College and Career Readiness Center on April 25<sup>th</sup>. She also reported that next year’s CTE, Dual-Enrollment and Early College applications have been submitted and reflect an increase in enrollment.
- Tuscola County – Lee Pavlichek provided an update about the county’s CTE recruitment process for next year’s students and announced that many of the programs will be full. He shared the challenges of the newest Fire Fighting Academy program in partnership with Delta College. He also shared that the students will be participating in the Square One Education Network competition again this year.

c. MiSTEM

- Region 6 (I-69 region) – Sarah Keenan-Lechel provided a summary of the Region 6 five-year Strategic Plan with the council members. She said that the plan includes a goal to coordinate a Project-Based Learning (PBL) Summit in 2027-2028 for the state. The region will be hosting two PBL workshops this summer; one at the Sloan Museum in Flint and the other at the Experience Center located at the St. Clair County Community College. Sarah is also working with the science consultant out of the Genesee County Intermediate School District to reimagine a physics program to ensure they meet physical science standards.
  - Region 7 (Mid-Michigan region) – *No updates available.*
  - Region 11 (Upper Thumb region) – Kristen Zagorski was attending the first annual Thumb STEMinistas Conference designed to promote STEM careers to high school girls in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola Counties.
- d. Skilled Trades/Apprenticeships – Cindy Thornthwaite provided information about the standards being held by the apprenticeship program. Howard Hipes is partnered with GSTMWI for an apprenticeship readiness program and provided additional information about the program’s benefits and trainings.
- e. GST Youth Programs – Katie Chrismer gave a brief update on the Summer’s Young Professionals program. Katie also explained what the Jobs for Michigan’s Graduates program is and its goals for the year. Members were reminded to provide any talent tour information they have planned for the year.
- f. Career Exploration Subcommittee – Jody Kerbyson informed members about available funding to assist the region’s districts with career exploration events.
- g. Regional Career Outlooks – Nick Gandhi was unable to attend but provided updates which were attached to the agenda.

IV. Other Updates/Comments

No other updates or comments were discussed.

V. Adjournment

Seeing there was no other business, Chair Fletcher called the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond Barry, Secretary

Stephanie Polmanteer, Administrative Specialist

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Raymond Barry, Secretary

9/12/25  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date