



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

**MINUTES**

**November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 1:00 P.M.**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chair Charmian Fletcher.

Allard, Diana/Amy Hoeksema – Genesee ISD	X	Mosier, Brianna/Amy Watts – Flint & Genesee Education & Talent	
Barry, Ray – GST Michigan Works!	X	Napier, Troy – Baker College Owosso	X
Fletcher, Charmian – Shiawassee RESD	X	Pavlichek, Lee – Tuscola ISD	
Grimes, Dayonte – Lapeer Community Schools		Prill, Yvonne – Scheurer Health	X
Hipes, Howard – Michigan Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Training Center	X	Shelton, Mary – Family Literacy Center	X
Langenburg, Brad – MI-Tech Tool		Stiles, Casie – Shiawassee RESD	
Lietz, Lindsay – ZF Group		Terry, Verona – Flint Genesee Job Corps Center	X
Matthews, Robert/Autumn Scherzer – Mott Community College	X	Walker, Lane – Huron Area Technical Center	X
Balcer, Kay – Thumb Community Health Partnership		Keenan-Lechel, Sarah – Genesee ISD	
Cappell, Dawn – Lapeer ISD	X	Konarski, Ann – Lapeer County CAN	X
Cowhy, Dawn – Lapeer ISD		Lewis-Jennings, Tracie – Michigan Rehabilitation Services	
Gandhi, Nick – Economic Analyst, State of Michigan		Nelson, Deb – Sanilac ISD	
Granz, Kari – Thumb Community Health Partnership	X	Seigel, Lisa – MiSTEM Director for Mid-Michigan, Region 7	
Green, Tanya – Shiawassee RESD		Walworth, Corrine – Genesee ISD	X
Guzman, Rey – Business Services Representative, State of Michigan	X		

An X indicates present members.

Staff present were Jody Kerbyson, Sharon Bowen, Jessica Billiau, Angela Libkie, Katie Chrismer, and Stephanie Polmanteer. Other attendees included John Hartwell.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Fletcher called for approval of the agenda. Diana Allard moved to approve the agenda. Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

**III. Introductions**

Members, staff, and other attendees introduced themselves.

#### IV. Action Items

##### a. **Election of Officers**

- **Chair: Charmian Fletcher**
- **Vice Chair: Diana Allard**
- **Secretary: Ray Barry**

Yvonne Prill moved to elect the officers as slated. Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

##### b. **Approval of the minutes of the September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting**

Yvonne Prill moved to approve the meeting minutes. Diana Allard supported the motion. Chair Fletcher called for discussion and a vote. All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

#### V. Updates

a. **Adult Education** – Mary Shelton provided a handout with statistics from the 2024-2025 Program Year (PY) for the Family Literacy Center. The PY concluded with 195 students earning their High School Diplomas and 117 students earning their GED (General Education Development) certificates. Mary reported that despite the recent 107A funding cuts, the center is still running their programs as usual.

##### b. **CTE & CCAN**

- **Genesee County** – Diana Allard reported that the new budget includes guidelines that need further clarification to ensure that allocations best meet the needs of each district. She mentioned that there are currently eight programs offered at the Genesee Career Institute (GCI), and they are planning to introduce new programs in local high schools. Additionally, they are establishing partnerships with McLaren Hospital and Genesee County 911 to create more options for student apprenticeship programs in the county.

Corrine Walworth provided highlights from the MCCAN event, noting that 90 county representatives attended the event at the GCI conference center. Representatives collaborated on more effective strategies to guide students and residents toward appropriate programs for college and career readiness support while they continue their education.

A county FAFSA workshop will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Genesee Intermediate School District, Davis building. Details can be found on the [beyondgrad.org](https://beyondgrad.org) website. The website provides event information and access to various resources for continuing education. Though the portal is primarily geared towards Genesee County residents, it contains beneficial information for those seeking to further their education.

- **Huron County** – Lane Walker announced a recent partnership with Thumb Community Health to facilitate a poverty simulation with their staff. He reported that it was well-received, and staff found it eye-opening in demonstrating what adults and kids experience in poverty situations. Lane shared that enrollment numbers are steady across the board, including concurrent enrollment for the 13<sup>th</sup>-year programs.

- Lapeer County – Ann Konarski reported that early college enrollment numbers are high. She shared that Lapeer County Schools have their own early college programs; however, the CTE is currently reaching out to local Lapeer County Schools to gauge students’ interest in participating in their blended program. The program would permit students to participate in CTE classes and college courses, allowing them to earn college credits in one location. Ann also emphasized the value of the wrap-around programs, such as time management, communication, and conflict resolution, offered in CTE’s seminar. They’re in the process of building a similar seminar with Baker College for their adult education students as well. Ann announced that the CTE has opened space on-site for the Family Literacy Center, providing students with daytime GED testing opportunities.
- Sanilac County – No representative present to provide updates.
- Shiawassee County – Charmian Fletcher shared highlights from the CTE’s 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Pathway Expo, which took place on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Eight districts participated in the event, bringing a total of 362 students. Among them, 159 chose the skilled trades pathway, which included fields such as electrical work, heavy equipment operation, and welding. Additionally, 203 students opted for the public service pathway, covering areas like health science, public safety, and teaching cadet programs. The event concluded with over 20 applicants expressing interest in attending next year's programs.

Furthermore, the center hosted a college essay workshop on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, followed by an Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID workshop on September 24<sup>th</sup>. In further preparation for FAFSA, the center also held a workshop on October 22<sup>nd</sup> to provide students with important information for completing their FAFSA applications. Charmian announced that a ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place later this month to celebrate the opening of a garage for the heavy equipment program. Lastly, she noted that enrollment numbers at the College and Career Readiness Center (CCRC) continue to grow, with 161 early college students and 243 dual enrollment students set to begin their spring semester.

- Tuscola County – No representative present to provide updates.

#### c. MiSTEM

- Region 6 (I-69 region) and Region 7 (Mid-Michigan region) – Sarah Keenan-Lechel was slated to provide the MiSTEM updates for both regions 6 and 7; however, she could not attend. Sarah provided an update via email to be presented in her absence. Charmian Fletcher read the following updates for the members. MiSTEM’s regional and Advisory Council Grants (the MiSTEM Collaboratives) were not included in the fiscal year 2025–26 school aid budget. However, the state-level MiSTEM staff at the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) were funded in the General Omnibus Budget.

The goal is for MiSTEM funding to be restored in a supplemental budget later this year, which is anticipated for December or January. In the meantime, funds are being reallocated at the state level to support regions through January 2026. Regional Directors are continuing to support regional initiatives, where possible, without additional funding and preparing for different scenarios depending on how the supplemental budget unfolds.

- Region 11 (Upper Thumb region) – No representative present to provide updates.

- d. Regional Career Outlooks – No representative present to provide updates.
- e. Skilled Trades/Apprenticeships – Jessica Billiau reported that GSTMW! currently has 62 active apprentices working with 39 employers in various fields, including medical assisting, childcare development, community health, neurodiagnostic, electrical work, residential carpentry, welding, and computer numerical control. Additionally, several more companies are prepared to launch their apprenticeship programs, which, unfortunately, have been delayed due to the government shutdown.
- f. GSTMW! Youth Programs – Angela Libkie announced that the final participants are completing the 2025 Young Professionals and Young Professionals Plus programs. She reported that, though the agency is unlikely to receive further funding for the Young Professionals Plus Program, since it was issued as a one-time grant, the Young Professionals Grant remains a possibility. Although the funding amount has yet to be determined, the final details are expected to be available in late December or early January. Additionally, Angela mentioned that the JMG program has been implemented in all six GSTMW! counties for out-of-school youth, as well as in the Genesee Intermediate School District and the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District for in-school programs. Lastly, it was announced that the agency is collaborating with the Thumb Community Health Partnership to incorporate JMG programs into the current healthcare pathways for high school students in the Thumb area.
- g. Employer Insights
- Howard Hipes and John Hartwell discussed the importance of recruiting new journeymen for the trades, as many seasoned journeymen are set to retire in the next five years. The demand for skilled labor has remained steady, with backlogs persisting for several years. Consequently, it's crucial to introduce younger generations into the trades. They noted that apprenticeship programs have been effective in facilitating this process and attracting eager young individuals to the skilled trades workforce.
  - Verona Terry provided information to address any questions or concerns regarding Job Corps funding. She also reported that several Job Corps students helped staff the recent East Michigan MiCareerQuest™ event in October, and they are looking forward to participating in next year's event. One notable success story involved a homeland security student who provided security services at the event and was recently hired by the Flint City Police Department. Additionally, she announced that the next Community Relations Council meeting will take place on December 11th at the McLaren Hospitality House in Flint.
  - Kari Granz announced that the Thumb Community Health Partnership is currently running a career pipeline program in Sanilac County. The program, which focuses on career exploration, guides students through an eight-week curriculum in health and human services. It offers valuable insights from speakers representing various partnering hospitals and health departments. Additionally, they will be launching a program in Huron County and are also looking to expand into Tuscola and Lapeer counties.
  - Autumn Scherzer reported that Mott Community College (MCC) is actively recruiting for programs that will begin after the start of the new year. Programs currently accepting enrollments include CNC robotics, welding, EV battery technician, and semiconductor technician programs. MCC recently received grants to support its skilled trades programs and is hopeful for additional funding in the future. Most programs offer training in the evenings and on weekends, making it more accessible for students and working adults to earn certifications in these fields.

- h. Career Exploration Subcommittee – Jessica Billiau reported that almost half of the career exploration funding that was budgeted as career event support funding has been spent. She reminds members and attendees to apply for supportive funding for their upcoming career events. Jessica also provided a handout highlighting key details of the recent MiCareerQuest™ event and shared some challenges that are being discussed while planning for next year.

VI. Other Updates/Comments

No additional updates were provided.

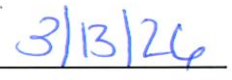
VII. Adjournment

Seeing there was no other business, Chair Fletcher called the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

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

  
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Raymond Barry, Secretary

  
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Date