

Regional Advisory Board Meeting  
Minutes  
5/17/22

Members present: Ruth Barton, Community Member; Anne Beekman, BUHS Board; Mari Cornell, WRCC; Anne Doran, WRCC; Chloe Learey, Winston Prouty Ctr.; Linda Quay, WRCC; Nancy Wiese, WRCC and Bob Woodworth, Community Member and Chair.

Introductions were conducted.

1. **Additions to the Agenda**

None

2. **Agenda Approval**

No additions

3. **Approval of Minutes (3/14/22)**

Minutes were approved as written.

4. **End of the Year Meeting and Award for Students May 26th, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.**

Nancy informed everyone that lunch will be outside for this event. Titos is catering. Will have fun activities for the students after lunch. Nancy stated that at the Career Center, we have had a great year and very few behavior issues. Two students have finished a two-week work experience at G.S. Precision. They had a fabulous experience. G.S. is trying to convince the boys to work there instead of going to Top of Hill Grill. Health Career students are off and running. UVM does not like our anatomy course to transfer credits. Nancy has spoken with the Agency of Education about this. Anne asked if the AOE can dictate what colleges offer? Ruth Durkee has called on a legal team.

Anne said that the Health program is looking really strong. Partnering with UVM. They will accept most of our courses. We have to do something to get our students working faster. We want our kids partnering with colleges.

Nancy said our LNA students are out on clinicals. Early Education with kids working at various sites. Nancy said we have received 225 applications for the Career Center. May have said no to about twenty students due to attendance and behavior issues. Anne added that some are denied due to over-enrolled programs. Nancy said that Electrical has 8 seniors and 7 have accepted job offers. Our Electrical teacher is great about connecting kids and employers. Chloe asked what programs are over-enrolled. Anne responded that Electrical, Business, LNA-Medical Terminology and Anatomy and Physiology.

Manufacturing is also pushing the edges. Will be offering an advanced into which will include some welding. Have spent \$60,000. in welding equipment - laser, machine tool, etc. Hopefully this will get more kids in the pipeline. ECE is close to full. Will be a combination of Level 1 and 2 in one section. Bringing back Criminal Justice and Fire Service. Nancy said the State has pressing issue - fire departments are made up of volunteers. Working with VTC to offer EMT programs. Plans to meet with the head of Vermont Police and Fire Academies. We want students to come out with IRC's. The career center is lucky that we are located where we are and can pull in many fire departments. People recognize the risks which are creating a shortage.

**5. Review of Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment and Discussion**

300 pages of documents

- We need to increase proficiency in reading and language arts
- Need to attract more girls to Construction, Forestry, Electrical
- Add dual enrollment to Culinary
- IRC's to Construction, Culinary, Electrical and Forestry

Manufacturing, Business and Health have the highest scores. ECE and Auto have the lowest. We have joined other Vermont CTE's to purchase Work Keys. Teachers will work with teachers twice a month to look at student work and build lesson plans. Student skills will be re-evaluated. BUHS Special Education students are further behind than our sending school students. Hope to see improvement in two years. In March 2022, unemployment rate in Vermont was 2.7%

**6. Discussion of Programming Changes and Additions**

Need to add plumbing, heating and ventilation, dental and phlebotomists. How do we do this? We don't have the space or staff. Anne said that we also need vet techs.

Mari added that we need dental assistants. Vermont Dental Society recognizes the need and started the Dental Assisting Program in collaboration with Vermont Adult Ed. We had the biggest need in our area. If you want someone to commit, you need to pay them while they are doing this. Dental assistants need to bring what they learn to the office. Popular for adult ed. Have to be 18 yrs. of age to be in this program. Hope to offer a refresher course this summer. Becky Steele and Mari are working on a course to get their licensing exam. Nancy stated that fire and police run more like a private institution. Will work to attract and retain non-traditional students. Film dovetails with BUHS arts Academy. There are no well-paying jobs. Nancy would like members to start thinking about as a group - do we close film and move toward plumbing and HVAC? It's really

hard - the arts have a huge investment in the community. Final straw in the arts offering - very torn about what to do. Chloe asked statistically, does film drag us down? Nancy said she spends more time defending it. Arts offered at BUHS are unbelievably strong. Film has built some partnerships with BUHS. It's about what we offer students after. What jobs are you going to get when you leave high school. Nancy has talked to a variety of people at local coffee shops about espresso machines. Nancy asked how they train employees and they replied they do it themselves with Zoom. Chloe asked how many students are in Film. Nancy said there are seven in Level I and 2 in Level 2 currently. Woody said it's nice to have a program like that but he was making a pitch for plumbing and HVAC. Anne asked if we are going to compete against our programs? There are only so many students. Nancy added that we can't assume that kids will take the course. Anne said that there is history about new offerings - just because there is a need, it may not sell to teenagers. Chloe added that jamming kids into the programs is not education. Anne said that we will be moving Health to be next door to the other Health program.

#### **7. Meetings for 2022-2023**

Nancy said we will set up dates and times for next year. The people that want early morning are not the same people that show up. We can do what works. Woody stated that we have a dwindling number of administrators. Nancy has surveyed administrators. Woody said COVID has turned things upside down. Chloe likes early mornings. Nancy suggested we try 8:00 a.m. instead of 7:30. Then we can try lunch if that doesn't work. Anne said that we need an agenda that people are engaged in or can buy into. Mari suggested turning to sending schools for reports.

Woody said that will work on reorganizing next year.

Anne Beekman made the motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 a.m.