

Regional Advisory Board Meeting
4/11/23
Minutes

Members present: Anne Beekman, BUHS School Board; Mari Cornell, WRCC; Anne Doran, WRCC; Linda Quay, WRCC; Nancy Wiese, WRCC and Rhonda Winegarner, WRCC
Zoom present: Bob Thibeault, WCSU; Christy Betit, BDCC; Kathy Larsen, TV Board Member

Anne Beekman called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Rhonda made the motion to approve the agenda. Mari seconded the motion.
3. Nancy made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/19/23 meeting. Linda seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

4. Updates

a. Recruiting/counseling

Anne informed the group that everyone has been working very hard with tours, outreach, meeting with students. We're getting the word out. Anne said that Rhonda has been very helpful and that it is a good partnership. Our numbers are looking wonderful. Aviation is low but that is typical of a new program offering. We are at capacity. Many of the students are rising 10th graders. The foundations class is paying off. Juniors get first priority then rising Seniors. Really careful about accepting 10th graders if they are not ready. Some are very strong freshmen. 2nd year programs continue to be smaller. Could be scheduling, students change their minds, etc. Working on flexible scheduling with Kathy Thielan. Early college is another competitor. Wonderful opportunity but competes with 2nd year programs. Nancy did a count and we have about twenty empty seats. 9-10 of these are in aviation. Talking about earlier programming. Linda asked if there has been consideration about combining the two levels. Nancy said that there is not enough room. However, Early Childhood is doing this. Anne is concerned about Nutrition. Kathy asked for more information about how the exploratory class works? Anne explained that the sending school students do not take this class. Nancy said that her long term hope is to send an exploratory teacher to the various schools rather than moving the kids.

b. Dual Enrollment

Rhonda informed everyone about the progress we've made. This year Rhonda made appointments ahead and registered students as a class. Reviewed college credits from the handout with everyone. Will look at these and see which ones we want to focus on. Anne said that this board should see how many of our programs are getting dual enrollment through VTC. Teachers have to have a Masters Degree in what they teach. Hope to renegotiate this. Look at moving dual enrollment

credential programs to offer to all of our students. BMH will give full tuition to eight students. Having trouble with early college to get 1st semester grades. Rhonda asked if you are aware of an apprentice program where they get college credit - let Rhonda know.

c. Co-op

Linda gave an overview of the Co-op experience. It is an addition to our programs, particularly Level II. Some of the advantages of Co-op are: learning proficiencies and skill development to reinforce their school-based learning. Linda explained the differences between career work experience, job shadow and a paid co-op. Job shadowing is a non-paid observation only generally related to the student's program. Happens during class time, 3-5 days a week. Can not be longer than 8 hours. Career exploratory is observation and hands on. Non-paid experience that runs about 2-3 weeks during class time. This involves a training agreement. Co-op is a paid experience. Students go through an interview process. Also covered under workmen compensation. Must be 16 years old. The co-op experience is directly related to the program the student is in. BMH has opened their doors to our Health career program. Future plans will include inviting Culinary Arts students into the Dietary Department and the Electrical students into the Maintenance Department. Linda has attended the Vermont Co-op Coordinator meetings this year and the role of the coop coordinator was discussed. Updating the training program so everyone will be on the same page. Ruth Durkee at the state department has been very helpful.

d. Adult Education

Mari announced that the second LNA class has just finished. It was very successful. A mini fair was held on testing day and all completers are gainfully employed. The 3rd LNA class starts tonight. LNA #4 will be offered over the summer. Three weeks, 8-5. Scheduling classes for the fall already. There may not be any room for adults in our day programs. They can apply for any class that has availability. Ed 2 Go continues to have enrollment. Mari stated that she would like to put a dental assistant internship program together with a dentist. Also have Electricians Talk Shop class. A community program. Any electrician can come.

Nancy sent out a desperate email to superintendents to participate. Will sent out a survey to set up meeting dates for next year.

Nancy made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mari seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.