



Criminal Justice Program Advisory Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, April 3, 2024
3pm-4pm, TIC, Room 304

Members Present: Orlando Alvarez, Asst Chief of Police Jeremy Evan, Sgt Justus Keith (National Guard), Sgt Elizabeth Norton (National Guard)

- Introductions

Opening welcome to attending members.

- Criminal Justice Course Syllabus, level 1 & 2

Presented members with updated curriculum, add that year 1 of criminal justice resulted in 6 college credits through CCV. Sgt Keith suggested adding additional course for additional college credits, suggesting making Criminology and Criminal profiling elective credits

- Dual enrollment courses

See above

- Job Shadowing/Ride-Alongs

Ride-Alongs have been established through BPD and VSP. Chief Evan is open to the idea of having students “volunteer” at the PD during class time. A discussion was made regarding having additional class visitors from the CJ field, Sgt Keith identified Stacy Stratton with the US Forest Service who would be willing to address students; contact information received. Chief Evans suggested David Lockerbe from Fish and Game as a second guest speaker.

Discussion on students joining PD's at age 18 Bellows Falls and WCSO are the only two local agencies that will hire at 18. Chief Evans expressed concern, as did I, over hiring officers at age 18, lack of life experience. Sgt Keith stated that the Guard would accept candidates at age 17.

- Workkeys

Chief Evans asked if WRCC or BUHS was teaching students on how to take tests. I stated that to my knowledge they were not. We discussed the WorkKeys and the three areas of testing. Discussion was made on who teaches the students on the three areas of testing and I stated that to my knowledge it was WRCC (to an extent). I made the comment that if scores did not improve, we at the WRCC might be required to teach these test areas within the curriculum. It was suggested that the instructor who teaches the Career Development class also teach Workplace Documents, Math, and Graphic Literacy.

Sgt Keith stated that the Guard is implementing strategies at the State level to administer the ASVAB to all HS students. "The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It is administered annually to more than one million military applicants, high school, and post-secondary students."

- Other Items

Discussion on how to better prepare students after high school for transition into The police academy. Sgt Keith mentioned that several years ago the Guard held a week long summer program for HS students, if this program could be revitalized , it can address courses that would better prepare students for the police academy; Sgt Keith is looking into this.

Discussion on Tier 2 IRCs, suggestion was to see what other States have for requirements and attempt to implement those here in Vermont (Mass. NH, Maine, NY).

Meeting concluded at 4:30pm