

Regional Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes - 5/6/25

Members present: Anne Beekman, BUHS Board; Christy Betit, Chair/Brattleboro Dev. Credit Corp.; Peter Broussard, Windham Central Board; Anne Doran, WRCC; Debra Grant, Community College of Vermont; Kathy Larsen, Twin Valley Board Member (zoom); Chloe Learey, Winston Prouty Center; Linda Quay, WRCC; Nancy Wiese, WRCC; Rhonda Winegarner, BUHS Dual Enrollment and Bob Woodworth, Community Member.

The meeting was called to order at 11:37 am Last meeting of the year.

1. Welcome

Hopes to have better meetings next year. Nancy will be working with Christy and Chloe over the summer.

2. Approve Agenda

Peter B. made the motion to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded. All in favor. Agenda approved.

3. Approve Minutes of 2/25/25

Chloe L. moved to approve the minutes of the 2/25/25 RAB meeting. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved as written.

4. Admissions

Numbers for next year from BUHS are down significantly. 20 students are going to early college. These students can not be in a career center class and early college. BUHS will also have 50 less students next year and 50 more the following year. Nancy is very concerned. We need to boost our selling points. The Business Marketing class has taken on the task to improve our numbers. We have followed up with career fair feedback, posters, slideshow advertising. WRCC will have a table at the fair tomorrow. Anne added that she did a formal tour with BUHS students. Need to do periodically instead of during recruitment time of the year. Would like to do it all year. Christy suggested sending invitations to kids in earlier grades. Rhonda said that it is not your grandfathers CTE. CTE grads going on - posters. Students need to see the end results. Anne added that we are trying to do more profile stories. Doing it consistently. Rhonda requested a listing. Rhonda asked if we eliminate programs as a result of low enrollment. Yes, if it is the 2nd year in a row with less than 8 students. Culinary falls into this category. If the instructor retires, we can use this time as a building year - growth opportunity. We can build enough numbers to run the program. Not sure if we

will take a year off or run the program. Rhonda asked if eight was for each level or combined. It is combined - Level I & II. Can't put students under age of sixteen in Forestry, Construction, Auto, Culinary and LNA. Not sure if Construction is low due to tariffs/economy. Anne asked that everyone continue to get the word out. Get information to Joyce for the website. Christy said the career fair could be expanded to tenth graders and the afternoon for sending schools. BDCC could help promote the center with short films on BCTV. Storytelling is an important way to communicate. Nancy noted that attendance is preventing students from being admitted. You can't make up that much time. Anne asked if it might be that students are not ready to go back to the pre-Covig model.

Nancy spoke about the project she did with Hinsdale students on problem-solving. Rhonda said that students don't know the ABCs of CTE admission. Anne added that we need to have someone to help with that age group. Nancy noted that Springfield has an outreach person. Anne mentioned that students taking Career Foundations are too young. There is a gap year before they are old enough to enroll. Nancy suggested that we offer Career Foundations II.

5. Non-traditional Student Numbers

WRCC is struggling in this area. There are no females in Electrical. Two males in LNA. Auto, Aviation and Manufacturing came off the watch list. Christy suggested career panels. Nancy would like them scheduled in the high school ACE block. Christ said there should be collaboration with high school content teachers. Anne asked if students take advantage of Dan Braden's STEM talks.

6. Continuous Improvement Plans

Nancy distributed raw data for everyone. The district goal is to improve by 10% in Math and Reading. We have reached the goal in Math. Would also like to reach 10% for reading. Chloe asked what the state average was for FY 24? The reading average was 47.44. Nancy reviewed the gaps. 50% of boys with special needs graduate. Slightly above in Science.

7. Perkins Funding for FY 26

Perkins funding gets approved a year before we get the money. It is a 27-month grant. We are usually wrapping it up and haven't even started yet this year. We need to replace lifts in Auto. Two are currently not safe. Chloe asked what the ballpark figure is for the grant. Nancy said it is 175,000.

Christy suggested pulling people in from advisory groups. Woody added that an employee at G.S. Precision was promoted to a position with the task of filling 1,000 positions.

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Chloe gave a shout-out to Early Childhood participation.

Christy invited everyone to feel free to stop by the High Demand Fair in the gym on Wednesday.

Nancy brought everyone up to date regarding the evac/relocation drill. Running into roadblocks. Hopefully, you will see this in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 12:47