



Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) Task Force Meeting Notes

March 7, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

DMACC Center for Career and Professional Development at Southridge, Des Moines

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Karrie Abbott, Mary Bontrager, Matt Bruinekool, Dave Bunting (facilitator), Kathy Nacos-Burds, Nicole Crain, Tom Cooley, Chris Duree, Greg Dufoe, Murray Fenn, Scott Fortune, Jerry Kearns, Pradeep Kotamraju, Dana Lampe, D. T. Magee, Randy Mead, Vicky Rossander, Ken Sagar, Brian Schoenjahn (represented in the afternoon by Bridget Godes, Elliott Smith, Lisa Stange, Julie Rosin, Jeremy Varner, Todd McGee (representing Edward Wallace), and Jeff Weld.

Bridget Godes, Iowa Senate Democrats, Rebecca Griglione, Department of Education (DE), Dave Palmer, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees (IACCT), Todd Prusha, Kirkwood Community College, and Eric St. Clair (DE) were also present.

AGENDA ITEM: Optional Tour of the Facility

Task force members participated in an optional tour of the [DMACC Center for Career and Professional Development at Southridge](#) facility.

AGENDA ITEM: Introductions and Plan for the Day

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow Up
	Pradeep Kotamraju, Dave Bunting	

Notes:

Dr. Pradeep Kotamraju, who was recently hired as the new Chief of the Iowa Department of Education's Bureau of Career and Technical Education, introduced himself to the task force members and provided a brief synopsis of his experience.

A packet of meeting materials was distributed. The packet included a revised task force membership list and copies of the December 13, 2013 meeting notes and interim progress report (January 15, 2014). Additional reference materials for the team members to add to their notebooks were distributed electronically.

AGENDA ITEM: An Overview of What 21st Century CTE Looks Like

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow Up
Provide an overview of the changing CTE landscape at the national level to inform future discussions.	Pradeep Kotamraju	Provide a summary of secondary CTE programs offered by each of Iowa's districts.

Notes:

Pradeep Kotamraju, DE, provided presentation highlighting several topics regarding CTE that are generating discussion the national level. Areas highlighted by Kotamraju included the college and career dilemma (i.e., college and career readiness), changing expectations regarding present day CTE versus vocational education of the past (e.g., alignment of secondary and postsecondary programs), alignment of CTE with workforce needs, and the emphasis on evidence-based policy.

Throughout the presentation, task force members asked clarifying questions and suggested additional information that might be helpful, such as a summary of CTE programs provided by each district in Iowa. They also identified several challenges impacting CTE in Iowa, including when CTE becomes available to students (high school), inequity in availability of programs (urban versus rural), local control over curriculum, and defining high quality programs.

AGENDA ITEM: Small Group Discussion and Reporting Out on 21st Century CTE for Iowa

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow Up
Begin conversations regarding a 21 st century CTE framework for Iowa.	Dave Bunting	Provide a summary of the feedback received to members of the Developing a 21st Century Secondary CTE Framework Work Team to help guide their work.

Notes:

Members were provided a handout containing the following discussion starter questions*, and divided into four smaller discussion groups to generate responses.

1. What is the “current state” of secondary CTE program in Iowa, including the current challenges or key issues facing these programs?
2. What is the purpose of secondary CTE in Iowa?
3. What are the core elements of a 21st Century secondary CTE program?
4. When implemented, what constitutes a successful 21st century CTE framework in Iowa?

*Each starter question also included subtopics/sub-questions to help frame the discussions.

Kotamraju noted the questions were originally intended for a work team dedicated to the Developing a 21st Century Secondary CTE Framework topic; however, the initial meeting of the work team was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The full group was reconvened and representatives from each of the discussion groups shared their input on the questions. The following is a sampling of the feedback received:

- The current state of CTE in Iowa is “variable”.
- There is a lack of (discipline specific) professional development for CTE teachers.
- Current rules and regulations are “constraining” for the secondary level.
- What is currently provided in secondary CTE programs may not be what industry wants or needs; greater collaboration is needed.
- Equity of opportunity for all students to participate in CTE (elective) is dependent on individual district schedules/location.
- The availability of career counseling at the secondary level varies.

The comments provided by the individual groups will be summarized for the work team’s reference.

AGENDA ITEM: Career Academy/Regional Centers Work Team Report

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow Up
Update the full task force on initial work of the work team.	Todd Prusha	

Notes:

Todd Prusha led discussion regarding the initial meeting of the Career Academy/Regional Centers Work Team. A copy of minutes from the meeting, which was held telephonically on February 11, 2014, was provided to each member. In addition to Prusha, subcommittee members include Eric St. Clair (DE), Josh Byrnes, Murray Fenn, Scott Fortune, and Kathleen Nacos-Burds. Dave Bunting (facilitator), Tom Cooley, and Pradeep Kotamraju also participate.

Discussion focused on the need to differentiate “career academy” (specified in legislation) and “regional center”. The conversations moved toward a career academy being specified coursework, while a regional center is physical location. It was also noted that “regional academy” is specified in legislation. Members noted that there are funding implications related to the various definitions so the group will need to be mindful of that fact as it discusses suggested parameters.

AGENDA ITEM: Next Steps

Expected Outcome	Lead Dave Bunting	Follow Up Survey members regarding a March 2014 meeting date.
------------------	--------------------------	--

Notes:

Additional work teams will continue to be established and meet throughout the year. Suggested areas of focus included review of Iowa Code and rule, CTE licensure, career guidance, work-based learning, and financing CTE programs.