



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

Friday, September 11, 2015

9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Adel-DeSoto-Minburn Community School District

801 Nile Kinnick Drive, South

Adel, Iowa 50002

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Bontrager, Greater Des Moines Partnership; Zach Dalluge (for Nicole Crain) Iowa Association of Business and Industry; Greg DuFoe, Adel-DeSoto-Minburn Community College District; Christopher Duree, Iowa Valley Community College District (IVCCD); Murray Fenn, Green Hills Area Education Agency; Jerry Kearns, State Representative; DT Magee, Board of Educational Examiners; Gail Kotval, Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA); Kathy Nacos-Burds, Northeast Iowa Community College; Julie Rosin, Retired from Des Moines Central Campus; Vicky Rossander, Iowa State Education Association; Lisa Stange, Iowa State University; and Jeff Weld, University of Northern Iowa

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dave Bunting, Cedar Rapids; Kelli Diemer, Department of Education (DE), Gary Hull, Kuder; Pradeep Kotamraju, DE; Jennifer Meier, IEDA; Dave Palmer, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; Cindy Schulte, IVCCD; Rachel Scott, Iowa College Student Aid Commission; Eric St Clair, DE; Jeremy Varner, DE; Amy Vybiral, DE; Phil Wise, DE; and Ryan Wise, DE

AGENDA ITEM: Introduction and Plan for the Day

Expected Outcome	Leads	Follow-up
	Pradeep Kotamraju	

Notes: Kotamraju discussed how the day was to proceed. The main purpose of the day was to come to an agreement regarding the proposed recommendations using a previously shared document with task force members.

AGENDA ITEM: Visualizing the Recommendations—A Career Pathway System as the Centerpiece of High-Quality Secondary CTE

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
A better understanding of how the five recommendations fit with each other.	Pradeep Kotamraju	

Notes: Kotamraju reviewed the five policy recommendations as a whole (presented individually below) by visually presenting them using an integrated graphic that contained the following overarching goal (see page 2):

Goal: *A comprehensive career pathway system will afford every student the opportunity to explore and pursue career and college opportunities.*

(The goal was outlined in a document previously shared with task force members).

Notes: The task force noted that certain constituent groups, *e.g.* academic teachers, needed to be taken into consideration. Emphasis was placed on the importance of avoiding silos – referencing certain subject areas may hinder the goal. For the recommendations to work as a whole, everyone has to come to the table and stop working piecemeal. The broader intent of the proposed recommendations is to change the entire CTE experience for students. It was also noted that by moving towards a “CTE silo,” there may be more pessimism without significant, long-term, adequate support and funding. Meaningful reform encourages school districts to view CTE differently; doing so would require striving towards current Department of Education initiatives (literacy and TLC). There are opportunities and connections to be made.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendation #1—Thoughtful High-Quality Career Guidance

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
Final review of Recommendation #1	Task Force Members	Staff will include suggested changes in an updated document.

Notes: The task force worked through each of the recommendations separately.

Recommendation #1:

Promote career and college readiness through thoughtful career guidance and purposeful academic and technical planning practices.

There was very little discussion on this item, mainly because the task force had already spent a considerable amount of time on the topic and were comfortable with what the recommendation was. There was consensus that the recommendation should be moved forward provided that minor suggested changes in language were incorporated.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendation #2—High-Quality Integrated CTE Curriculum

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
Final review of Recommendation #2	Task Force Members	Staff will include suggested changes in an updated document.

Notes: The task force worked through each of the recommendations separately.

Recommendation #2:

Provide a high-quality, integrated CTE programming comprised of secondary exploratory and transitory coursework to prepare students for higher-level, specialized academic, and technical training.

The discussion centered on language clarification, the role of middle school CTE, and the general role of secondary CTE that is currently being taught at the high school level. As part of the overall discussion, reference was made to the relationship between the current system of CTE service areas and their relationship to the 16 career clusters. There was consensus that the recommendation should move forward provided that minor suggested changes in language were incorporated.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendation #3—Spectrum of High-Quality Work-Based Learning

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
Final review of Recommendation #3	Task Force Members	Staff will include suggested changes in an updated document.

Notes: The task force worked through each of the recommendations separately.

Recommendation #3:

Afford students the opportunity to access a spectrum of high-quality work-based learning experiences through a coherent delivery system that streamlines and leverages existing initiatives.

Very little discussion occurred under this item. The only suggestion was to ensure that both the four-year institutions of higher education, as well as the STEM regional centers, were included in the Intermediary Network Structure. There was consensus that the recommendation should move forward provided that minor suggested changes in language were incorporated.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendation #4—High-Quality CTE Instruction

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
Final review of Recommendation #4	Task Force Members	Staff will include suggested changes in an updated document.

Notes: The task force worked through each of the recommendations separately.

Recommendation #4:

Address the shortage of qualified CTE instructors by expanding opportunities to obtain academic and technical training in licensure areas and examining preservice preparation and licensure practices to remove barriers for horizontal and vertical career advancement for individuals within the profession.

Very little discussion occurred under this item. The task force members were satisfied at the direction this recommendation. There was consensus that the recommendation should move forward provided minor suggested changes in language were incorporated.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendation #5—Delivering High-Quality CTE through Regional Centers

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
Final review of Recommendation #5	Task Force Members	Staff will include suggested changes in an updated document.

Notes: The task force worked through each of the recommendations separately.

Recommendation #5:

Through collaboration and regional partnerships, provide for increased and equitable access to high-quality CTE through a statewide system of regional centers.

Of all the recommendations, this was the one that some task force members felt the greatest ambivalence towards. The discussion centered on the notion about whether *place* matters when it comes to high-quality CTE delivery. The ambivalence arose because some task force members saw the regional centers as taking away from the overall CTE enterprise, particularly as it relates to secondary CTE programming. After much discussion, all members of the task force concurred with the recommendation although support for this recommendation was muted. There was consensus that the recommendation should move forward provided suggested changes in language were incorporated.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendations as a Whole—Comfort Level Still OK?

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
Gauging comfort level after discussing each recommendation.	Task Force Members	Staff will include suggested changes in an updated document.

Notes: The task force was once again asked about their comfort level with the recommendations as a whole. They agreed that these recommendations should move forward as final provided they were further refined based on the input and suggestions provided under each recommendation.

AGENDA ITEM: Wrap Up and Next Steps

Expected Outcome	Lead	Follow-up
	Task Force Members	Planning for Listening Sessions

Notes: A short discussion ensued regarding the process by which the draft set of recommendations would be made known to the constituents and stakeholders. It was agreed to by the task force members that Department of Education staff will develop a plan for listening sessions.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.