Career and Technology Education Programmatic Visioning Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2012

**Attendance**

The following persons were present: Janci Alexander-Alfaro, Don Beck, Joey Baham, Joe Berezoski, Matt Bolinger, Dana Byal, Dr. Bernard Cannariato, Michael Coopersmith, Mary Davis, Renea Dillon, Mayor Steve DonCarlos, Cary Duhon, Maria Gonzalez, Suzanne Heinrich, Robert Hoskins, Dave Jirrels, Debi Jordan, Tom Kelchner, Steve Koester, Herb Lorfing, Donnie McCoy, Tameka Mills, Lt. Charles Murrell, Carrie Pryor-Newman, Mike Riojas, Lizette Sanchez, Doug Shipley, Mike Smith, Carrie Trawick, Tiffany Upshaw, Samantha Villalon, Nick Woolery, Dr. Toby York

1. **Welcome**

Dr. York welcomed the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programmatic Vision Committee at

4:00 p.m., on February 21, 2012, at the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District (GCCISD) Administration Building Board Room. He thanked everyone for taking the time from their work schedules to support the students and programs in GCCISD.

1. **Charge for the CTE Programmatic Visioning Committee**

Dr. York summarized his belief that the school district should be doing more to prepare students for technical careers in what he terms the “Industrial Mecca” (Baytown area). He would like to see GCCISD students ready for the workforce or post secondary programs that will further prepare them for the workforce. Dr. York stated the charge for this committee is to make recommendations regarding the programs of study that are needed to provide trained workers for area industries and to create a ten year plan for CTE that will meet the future needs of our students and the community. Dr. York would like for GCCISD to be the model for CTE programs and partnerships in Gulf Coast Region.

This affirmed the current direction that the district is going, placing a heavy emphasis on college and career readiness. Dr. York stated that he will recommend to the Board of Trustees a bond referendum for May 2013. The information produced by this Programmatic Visioning Committee will play a large part in determining the CTE elements in the bond.

1. **Introductions and Timelimes**

Suzanne Heinrich asked all present to introduce themselves and share the industry or business that they represent. She then reviewed the timeline for upcoming meetings and explained that the committee would break into to smaller work groups at the next meeting in order to create a list of growing occupations, skills, technologies, and certificates that should be targeted by each program of study.

Ms. Heinrich asked all committee members to “bring a friend” to the next meeting.

1. **Resources for the Work of the Committee**

Renea Dillon reviewed the resources provided in the notebooks: committee members, current programs of study, labor market, and visioning plan. Again, Ms. Dillon encouraged for everyone to “bring a friend” from the area they are representing to help build their recommendations for the ten year plan.

1. **State of CTE in GCCISD**

Ms. Dillon began with an explanation of the components of programs of study developed by the Center for Occupation Research and Development (CORD). In 2008-09, the state reorganized CTE by reducing the approved course offerings from over 600 courses down to 198 and changed the certification requirements for the teachers as well. The district then began the redesign of its CTE program. Phase One began with research of current labor market needs through CTE Steering Committee input, review of labor market statistics and of the agreements with Lee College and San Jacinto College, and the input of a faculty advisory committee. Simultaneously, other departments in the district were working to establish a “Portrait of a GCCISD Graduate.” Phase Two began the actual redesign of the CTE department into programs of study. After training, the career cluster leaders created CTE sequence of courses. Teachers then worked on enhancing the curriculum which included establishment of the “non-negotiable” curriculum for the CTE Department. This included incorporating the Achieve Texas Model, Tech Prep, Integrated Academics, and College and Career Planning into the CTE curriculum. She also stated that Board Goal 2 includes building a college and career planning matrix which will include the development of all of the soft skills included in the “Portrait of a GCCISD Graduate.”

Phase Three will include the design and implementation of a ten year plan for the Goose Creek CISD CTE programs of study. The work of this committee is vital to developing that plan.

1. **State of the City of Baytown**

Suzanne Heinrich introduced Mayor Steve DonCarlos, who delivered very exciting overview of what is in store for Baytown. Mayor DonCarlos shared the things that the City of Baytown is doing to make Baytown a more attractive place for our graduates to live when they finish high school and college. There is also a focus on making Baytown more attractive for business growth and as a desirable and livable community. He reviewed four areas that the city is addressing to improve its marketability: citizen safety, economic and financial health, infrastructure, maintenance and improvement, and quality of life.

Citizen Safety

Mayor DonCarlos stated crime rates are down substantially. Total offenses are down 8.9 percent.

Fire station #6 by the Pinehurst Subdivision has just opened and is a beautiful building. The next fire station will be built close to Victoria Walker Elementary. The City of Baytown is expanding the EMS station on South Main. The city is also about to start on a state of the art fire training academy that will serve not only the local fire department but also industries in the area and other municipalities. Being prepared for all types of emergencies is also a major focus for the city. The economic development, job growth and city financial health is pretty substantial. There are major industrial projects in the works that will add many construction and permanent jobs to the area.

Financial Health

Mayor DonCarlos stated that the city financial health continues to be great. He emphasized the balanced budget, stable revenue, strong bond rating, and multiple grant awards.

Infrastructure, Maintenance, and Improvement

Mayor DonCarlos shared that the city is working hard to keep roadways, sidewalks, water, sewer, and flood control in great shape. A local transportation network has been developed and participation is growing. Hurricane preparedness continues to be a priority.

Quality of Life

Mayor DonCarlos highlighted park improvements and the growth of water parks in Baytown. Pirates Bay will be open April 29 through September 25 in 2012. In 2011, the water park had 130,697 visitors. The daily average was 1,291. It brought in $1.6 million for the 2011 season. Community beautification projects include the Tabbs Bay clean-up project, reopening of Bayland Marina, and the redesign/beautification of Texas Avenue. The University of Houston has assigned one of their architectural classes to study the Baytown waterfront for revitalization. The class will submit their conclusions and suggestions to the City Council.

The Mayor then discussed the future of Baytown with regard to the workforce. One of the biggest worries expressed by Mayor DonCarlos is that Baytown will not have enough skilled craftsmen to meet demand of industrial expansion in the Baytown area. Rod Herrick, plant manager for Bayer, wrote an article about the desperate need for workers with technical training. Mayor DonCarlos shared that

Mr. Herrick and the plant managers of ExxonMobil and Chevron have had some dialog regarding the creation of a program where the school district, Lee College and local industry partner to develop an academy that will train technical workers for local industry. The Port of Houston is interested in furnishing the city information and manpower to help in the project.

1. **Harris County Workforce Preparedness Projections**

Ms. Heinrich presented some research from The Center for Houston’s Future. This research included information on the expanding economy, education, and workforce preparedness in the Gulf Coast area. The forecast on high demand jobs in the Gulf Coast area was outlined. This group is also concerned about the potential shortage of skilled craftsmen to meet industrial demand locally.

1. **Conclusions & Action Items**

Any comments or suggestions for this process are welcomed. Please invite a colleague to the next meeting. We will begin the process of developing a ten year plan for the GCCISD CTE Program.

1. **Future Meetings**

March 6, 2012 – 3:30 p.m., GCCISD Administration Texas Room

April 3, 2012 – 3:30 p.m., GCCISD Administration Texas Room

April 17, 2012 – 3:30 p.m., GCCISD Administration Board Room

May 15, 2012 – 3:30 p.m., GCCISD Administration Room 252

June 19, 2012 – 3:30 p.m., GCCISD Administration Room 252