

**VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**General Advisory Council for**  
**Technical and Career Education**  
**Advanced Technology Center**  
**Tuesday, February 23, 2010**  
**12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Nicki Adams, Barbara Brinson, Jim Cervera, Cameron Dye, Robert Hall, Phil Reed, Prescott Sherrod, Jerry Stewart, Armand Taylor, Kevin Will, and Amy Wisilosky

**Members Absent:** Judy Begland, Jane Brooks, Chris Davidson, Jim DeBellis, Robert Gerling, Cory Gray, Reza Hashampour, Tammy Jaxtheimer, and Tom Smith

**Technical and Career Education Ex-Officio Members Present:** Ann Marie Garvey, Patrick Konopnicki, John Ledgerwood, Sarah Martin, Linda Spruill, and Mike Taylor

**Technical and Career Education Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Rhonda Doak, Alveta Mitchell, Robert Mitchell, Daniel Smith, David Swanger, and Kay Thomas

**Special Guests:** Mrs. Marilyn Burstein, President, The Art Institute of Virginia Beach  
Michelle Larkin, Sheila Johnson, John Hinson, Crewestone Technologies, Inc.

**Call to Order**

Jerry Stewart called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m.

Linda Spruill introduced Mrs. Burstein. Prescott Sherrod introduced the team from Crewestone Technologies: Michelle Larkin, Sheila Johnson, and John Hinson. Members were then asked to introduce themselves.

**Old Business**

The minutes of the December 15 meeting were approved as recorded.

***TCE Exemplary Standards Review***

Linda Love requested help from advisory council members to evaluate those schools going through the exemplary standards process. There will be two training sessions again this year, and those members who are able to do so were requested to sign up for either the luncheon training session on April 29 or the breakfast training session on April 30. The two schools engaged in the self-study this year are Salem High School and Landstown High School. The evaluation process involves review of material collected throughout the year and a site visit. This year reviewers will work with electronic portfolio systems. Potential reviewers were requested to set aside four hours for training to learn the procedures and criteria.

### ***Advanced Technology Center Sustainability***

Several weeks ago, Patrick Konopnicki did a presentation to the Virginia Beach School Board on industry certification. Board members were pleased to see how far we have come in this area in the last few years. Sustainability is a new 21<sup>st</sup> century skill identified in Compass to 2015. We will be baseline testing students in this 14<sup>th</sup> Workplace Readiness Skill by means of a third-party testing agency and plan to test 2,100 students by the end of this year. William Jackson, modeling and simulation instructor at the Advanced Technology Center, gave his students a project on sustainability. One of his students presented to the School Board along with Patrick Konopnicki, and a taped excerpt was shown to the General Advisory Council members.

### ***New Business***

Prescott Sherrod spoke to the members about the “*All Systems Go!*” Professional Development Conference & Technology Expo, which his company, Pemmco, Inc., in partnership with Crewestone Technologies, Inc., will host in Virginia Beach July 8-10, 2010. This interactive conference will have an impact on business and industry, as well as respond to the growing need for outreach in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education. Michelle Larkin then showed a PowerPoint presentation to the members

### ***Virginia Beach Schools Federal Credit Union Commercial***

Virginia Beach Schools Federal Credit Union recently opened a branch near the Regal Cinemas in the Strawbridge shopping center. Amy Wisilosky wanted to tap into the teenage market that frequent the movie theatres but had a limited budget to do a commercial. With the help of Bill Myers, instructor for the TV production class at the Tech Center, the students wrote, produced, and appeared in the commercial. There has been a lot of positive feedback from this commercial. The class received \$1,000 for producing it, and that money will be used for much needed supplies. Jim Cervera also reminded members in the business community to call upon the Tech Center to help with projects.

### ***First Colonial High School Virtual Enterprise (VE) Winner***

Instructor Caroline Myers introduced East Coast Organic Clothing, the Virtual Enterprise company from First Colonial High School, and explained to members that VE is a business and information technology course. This team won first place in the Virginia Business Plan Defense held in Virginia Beach in December, and will have the opportunity to present their business plan to Merrill Lynch bankers in New York City in March. The team did their presentation for members, and Caroline Myers requested feedback and any advice or suggestions from council members. Members of the advisory council were impressed and wished them well in national competition.

### ***Legislative Update***

John Ledgerwood informed members about the progress of bills currently before the General Assembly. House Bill (HB) 566/SB 630, Standards of Quality; School Performance Report Card, as passed by the House, requires each local school board to include in its annual report to the Board of Education the number of Virginia’s Workplace Readiness Skills assessments passed and the number of national occupational competency assessments passed.

### ***Virginia Career and Technical Education (VACTE) Advisory Council Update***

Jerry Stewart reported to the members that VACTE met on January 14. The chairman's presentation to the Virginia Department of Education was well received, and a dialogue was established. The state council is having some success in trying to connect back to local councils. One impending challenge is that the chairman's term ends in July, and changes are coming. Patrick Konopnicki suggested a joint meeting with the state and local councils at the Advanced Technology Center in fall.

### ***Other Business***

Linda Spruill provided the members with information about upcoming events.

- March 12, Virginia Teachers for Tomorrow Symposium in the ATC theatre. The Virginia Teacher of the Year, as well as the Virginia Beach Teacher of the Year, will be guest speakers
- March 19, Culinary Arts competition
- March 24, Early Childhood Education Career Fair, symposium and panel discussion, Landstown High School
- April 1, Nursing graduation, Landstown High School
- April 16, Child Abuse Forum for parenting and psychology students
- March or April (TBD), Robotics Competition

There was no further business. Jerry Stewart adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm. The date of the next meeting is April 13, 2010 at the Advanced Technology Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Wargo  
Administrative Office Associate  
Office of Technical and Career Education