

**VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**General Advisory Council for**  
**Technical and Career Education**  
**Advanced Technology Center**  
**Tuesday, October 14, 2008**  
**12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Dan Bell, Barbara Brinson, Jane Brooks, Chris Davidson, Jim DeBellis, Cameron Dye, Robert Gerling, Cory Gray, Robert Hall, Phil Reed, Brenda Sedlacek, Prescott Sherrod, Tom Smith, Jerry Stewart, and Kevin Will

**Members Absent:** Nicki Adams, Judy Begland, Jim Cervera, Reza Hashampour, Tammy Jaxtheimer, Armand Taylor, and Amy Wisilosky

**Technical and Career Education Ex-Officio Members Present:** Rhonda Doak, Ann Marie Garvey, Linda Love, Sarah Martin, Robert Mitchell, Daniel Smith, and Mike Taylor

**Technical and Career Education Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Michael Bolton, Patrick Konopnicki, John Ledgerwood, Alveta Mitchell, Linda Spruill, and Dave Swanger

**Special Guest:** Brittany Moon, Bayside High School and Tech Center student, National SkillsUSA President

**Call to Order**

Jerry Stewart called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

**Old Business**

The minutes of the April 22 meeting were approved as recorded.

**New Business**

***Workplace Readiness Skills - Hampton Roads Business Education Collaborative***

Dan Bell of Canon Information Systems is developing a workplace readiness skills awareness campaign, and he shared his presentation promoting Virginia's 13 Workplace Readiness Skills for schools and businesses. Businesses are challenged to find qualified employees. He says that there is an increasing awareness of how powerful Workplace Readiness Skills are, and he would like to harness this power. His campaign prototype would have an audio track and would be self running with the soundtrack playing in the background. There would be a talk about all 13 skills, go through each skill individually, and then show what type modules are available. Each module has an overview, providing further explanation of each skill, and would contain an overview, lesson objective, and the actual module. Business would have different types of modules than education. Area employers see the relevance of Virginia's 13 Workplace Readiness Skills. Businesses could use these skills to screen applicants. Dan is very interested in everyone's thoughts and requested feedback. Bob Gerling agreed that businesses would very much be in favor of the Workplace Readiness Skills. It is his belief that we

need to “advertise” more to parents. These skills are across the board for everyone in every walk of life. Barbara Brinson suggested that one way to contact parents would be through *Parent Connection*, headed by Melissa McQuarrie, director of the Office of Community Relations, Virginia Beach City Public Schools. Phil Reed stated that he is working with Opportunity, Inc. to develop high school modeling and simulation curriculum, and in the 15 competencies listed, two are for modeling and simulation, and 13 are Workplace Readiness Skills. Professionals value these 13 skills. The members agreed that Dan Bell should move forward with implementing this prototype.

### ***2007-08 Virginia Beach City Public Schools Credentialing Report***

Daniel Smith gave members an abbreviated version of the 2007-08 Virginia Beach City Public Schools Credentialing Report. In all, 88 different tests are administered. During the last school year, a total of 4,081 industry credentials were earned. The Tech Center achieved an impressive 1,104 earned credentials – an important milestone – the first time an individual school went over 1,000. Landstown High School Technology Academy earned 425 credentials, the most of any comprehensive high school. A total of 1,377 students passed Workplace Readiness skills, almost double the amount of last year. Patrick Konopnicki has met with every principal to go over their numbers, highlighting best practices, and offering suggestions for areas where improvement is needed. Assessment provides a valuable tool in determining how students are learning. Jerry Stewart reported that the Virginia Beach Development Authority, along with Department of Economic Development, does an annual report and credentials earned by our students are listed in this city report.

### ***National SkillsUSA***

Every program area in technical and career education has a student organization. Brittany Moon, a student at Bayside High School and the Tech Center, is the National SkillsUSA president. Ms. Moon gave a brief presentation, explaining how SkillsUSA has helped to improve her skill level and has given her courage and the confidence to be successful in her chosen career. She thanked members for the opportunity to speak to them, and for their efforts in providing learning opportunities for all students.

### ***State Career and Technical Education Advisory Board and Virginia Beach Development Authority Annual Report***

Jerry Stewart reported to the members that he attended his first State Career and Technical Advisory Board meeting in Roanoke. There are two or three new members on the board, and they were given a background of what is going on around the state. The next meeting is in January, and he will have more to report at that time.

### ***Technical and Career Education Annual Report***

Linda Love gave the members a copy of the Technical and Career Education (TCE) Annual Report, and she said she welcomes all feedback and suggestions for improvement. She will accept a member's company logo for inclusion in the report.

### ***Technical and Career Education (TCE)/Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) Brochure***

Sarah Martin provided members with a copy of a brochure distributed by the Virginia PTA, entitled "*Find the Hidden Workers.*" The brochure is designed to capture the imagination of elementary school students and the interest of their parents as regards technical and career education. Every effort will be made to secure more brochures for distribution during Technical and Career Education Week in February.

### ***Other Business***

There will be a public hearing on October 30, 2008 (five are occurring across the state on October 30—the closest to Virginia Beach will be held at Joliffe Middle School in Chesapeake) to address the proposed changes to the Standards of Accreditation, including the proposed changes to the Standard and Advanced Studies diplomas, as well as the Standard Technical and Advanced Technical diplomas.

There was no further business. Jerry Stewart adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

The date of the next meeting is December 16. Members will be notified by mail.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Wargo