## MEETING MINUTES

# Virginia Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Virtual Zoom Meeting

### Attendees

William Edward Bowman Jr., Christina L. Clark, Jason Daniel, Dr. Victor H. Gray, Susan Long-Molnar, Darla Miller, Dr. Sukeena Stephens, Dr. Linda Zanin, Dr. David Eshelman, Dr. J. Anthony Williams.

### Opening Remarks and Welcome

Dr. Stephens welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

### Public Comment

No written public comment was submitted, and no one requested to make a public comment.

### Approval of Minutes (January 20, 2022)

The minutes were reviewed. Ed Bowman moved to approve the minutes, Linda Zanin seconded, and the minutes were approved by consent at 9:06.

### Update/Overview of CTSOs

*Sandy Mills, FBLA State Advisor*

*Debbie Will, FCCLA State Advisor*

*Andy Seibel, FFA State Advisor (recorded update)*

*Billie Scott, TSA State Advisor*

*Joyce Price, SkillsUSA State Advisor*

*Karen Charney, DECA State Advisor*

*Sharon Acuff/Crystal Stokes, HOSA State Advisor*

Dr. Eshelman introduced the state specialists and asked them to provide short updates.

Sandy Mills said that FBLA membership was up but still down from pre-COVID numbers. She reviewed the rebranding of the association, its focus on leadership development, student conferences and state/regional officer training, and engagement opportunities (participation as workshop presenters, competitive event judges, and event sponsorship).

Debbie Will explained the overall purpose and function of FCCLA and its integration of work-based learning within the family and consumer sciences curricula. She reviewed the primary pathways the association covers, the state and national competitive events (individual and team events from middle through high school), and the national programs that have a positive impact on the local community.

Heather Jones discussed the Educators Rising student organization, which integrates learning opportunities into education and training programs in middle school, high school, and postsecondary schools.

B.J. Scott shared that he is preparing for the group’s state conference in two weeks, which will be the first conference in three years. He explained that TSA is a STEM-based organization and open to middle and high school students enrolled in technology education courses. He said that membership is up this year and that a leadership academy was held in the fall, with six regional fairs held in March. A new-officer workshop will be held in June, and other opportunities for leadership training of state officers will be offered at the national conference and the fall meeting, Leadership Academy, and spring meeting.

Mr. Bowman commented that it seemed like TSA had more student involvement and asked the reason for the high membership. Mr. Scott replied that through COVID he did a lot of work to keep the membership going and added that attendance is down for conferences. Dr. Eshelman added that it’s a combination of a number of things, where you have chapters that require membership but not participation, and that there are many technology and engineering programs that may affect interest in TSA. Ms. Mills and Ms. Will both stated that their enrollments were high and explained the difference between participation in the classroom and dues-paying participation in state and national conferences.

Dr. Gray asked, “Are there any CTSOs that support the youth apprenticeship program?” Dr. Williams responded that there is a team at VDOE working to improve and create WBL opportunities for students. He clarified that some of the organizations start at the middle school level, and that can be a factor in the membership numbers.

Mr. Bowman asked, “Do the different CTSOs help each other promote enrollment?” Dr. Williams replied that it does happen and there is overlap. Ms. Mills said they do try to create leadership development opportunities, to combine resources.

Ms. Clark asked via the chat whether any of the CTSOs could be run as an after-school program. Dr. Eshelman replied that they are co-curricular organizations, and the skills are embedded within the curriculum. There is an expectation that it is integrated into the classroom, but they often stay after school to complete the tasks required for competition.

Sharon Acuff discussed the Virginia DECA student organization, which focuses on leadership and entrepreneurship in marketing, finance, and hospitality and management in high school and college. She added that DECA does not have a middle school component. She reviewed membership, which dropped during the pandemic, and leadership activities, including an officer leadership retreat, competitive events, a state leadership conference, and an international career development conference.

Ms. Acuff also discussed Virginia HOSA, which focuses on promoting career opportunities in the healthcare industry. She reviewed the association’s membership and goals (leadership development, networking opportunities, preparation work in the healthcare field).

Ms. Molnar commented that she has presented at many DECA classes over the years and understands the need to be even more connected to what’s important in the careers students are preparing for. She added that she met with a representative of Bon Secours recently, and noted that there may be opportunities to get more of those units within the healthcare organizations involved, saying that she is new to the committee and does not know whether that involvement already exists.

Dr. Williams reviewed the SkillsUSA student association, the co-curricular organization for trade and industrial education, its state conference and competitive events, work with business and industry in various skilled trades, membership, the various competitive events that cross numerous career clusters, and the upcoming national conference in June. He noted that SkillsUSA does not have a middle school program.

Dr. Eshelman introduced a video presentation by Andy Seibel of the Virginia FFA organization. Mr. Seibel reviewed the purpose of the organization, the development of state officers and related training, and participation in state and regional events (leadership conferences and competitive events).

Dr. Stephens thanked the CTSO advisors for their presentations and for taking the time to present to the committee.

The committee took a short break.

### Curriculum Reviews for SY 2022-2023

Kevin Reilly, Administrative Coordinator, CTE Resource Center

Mr. Reilly reviewed the curriculum development process for the committee. He stated that there are about 90 courses scheduled to be reviewed in the 2022-2023 school year, and he invited members of the committee to participate in the revisions as subject-matter experts for business and industry.

### Department of Education Update

*Dr. David Eshelman, Director, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Virginia Department of Education*

Dr. Eshelman discussed two areas of focus within the office: the annual of review of credentials (new and to be removed) before the state Board of Education, and Work-Based Learning.

Dr. Eshelman reviewed the criteria for approval of credentials and the process for submitting new, removing discontinued, and reviewing existing credentials.

Dr. Eshelman introduced a presentation prepared for the April National Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Work-Based Learning conference about the high-quality work-based learning (WBL) network and Virginia Voyager, the online platform being developed for Virginia public schools. He reviewed the presentation and its emphasis on high-quality WBL with the committee.

Ms. Acuff highlighted the accomplishments in Virginia’s WBL program and the challenges that remain, the benefits to employers and to students, the challenges in growing the talent pipeline and the part VDOE plays in high-quality WBL program delivery, how the VDOE is building relationships among school divisions and in the community, and connecting high-quality WBL opportunities with the online Virginia Voyager platform.

Dr. Eshelman said the focus is to deliver opportunities in phases, first with K-12, then to expand the platform.

Ms. Zanin asked, with reference to the new graduation requirements, how many schools are signed on to Virginia Voyager? Are the opportunities that would be put on there be available for all students in the state of Virginia? Ms. Acuff answered yes. Dr. Eshelman said, regardless of the school division, all are being asked to participate in Virginia Voyager to drive opportunities across the commonwealth.

Ms. Zanin, in referring to International Baccalaureate and dual enrollment courses, noted there are few opportunities within CTE for dual enrollment courses. If you have community colleges or colleges offering that kind of opportunity, can that information be shared with schools in other districts that maybe don’t have access to those dual enrollment courses? Dr. Eshelman answered yes, adding that there is an expectation for divisions to work with local community colleges first, then expand to other community colleges or universities.

### Advisory Committee Member Roundtable

Dr. Sukeena Stephens, committee chair

Dr. Stephens invited attendees to share any recent updates. There were no updates from the committee members.

### Virginia ACTE Update

*Darla Miller, Virginia ACTE Liaison*

Ms. Miller asked for the committee’s help with increasing membership in professional organizations and CTSOs. She shared that VACTE attendees to the ACTE national policy seminar met virtually with representatives of Virginia Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, both of whom voiced their support for CTE, to discuss issues affecting Virginia schools and educators and initiatives in Congress.

She referred the committee to the CTE Works fact sheet and noted that it is available in Spanish.

She asked the committee for its assistance in reviewing and updating Issues and Solutions, the annual list of six priorities for CTE in Virginia.

She noted that Virginia Tech was restoring some of their teacher training programs.

### Adjournment

Ed Bowman made a motion to adjourn, and the committee adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Next meeting: June 9, 2022, 9 a.m. to noon.