

**BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
GENERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Friday, February 13, 2015**

A meeting of the General Advisory Council of Bucks County Technical High School was held on Friday, February 13, 2015 in the Board Room at Bucks County Technical High School. The meeting was called to order at 8:35am.

Members Present:

Garney Morris, Garney Morris, Inc.
Ed Needham, SMW 19
Bob Schuck, Sheet Metal Workers, Local #19
Kevin Troy, SEPTA

Bucks County Technical High School

Walter Hansell, School-to-Career Coordinator
Ron Martino, School-to-Career Coordinator
Leon Poeske, BCTHS Administrative Director

The meeting was called to order at 8:40AM by Mr. Morris.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Needham, seconded by Mr. Schuck, that the minutes of the May 14, 2014 and October 10, 2014 meetings be approved. Council members unanimously approved.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Dr. Poeske welcomed everyone to the meeting; self-introductions followed.

2014-2015 UPDATE

Dr. Poeske explained that we are moving forward with items through recently formed committees; Campus Beautification, Crisis, Data Team, Information Technology, Peer Coaching, Professional Development, Safety, Self-Directed Research Design, and Wellness Committees all meet once a month. This has had a positive impact on school climate, culture, and improvements.

CONTRACT AGREEMENTS

Dr. Poeske announced that we have contract agreements with administrators, support staff, and teachers.

STUDENT NEWS

Dr. Poeske announced the following:

BCTHS SkillsUSA students earned 55 medals at the SkillsUSA District Competitions. Twenty-four gold medals were won and those winners will compete at the state level in April.

Two seniors in Automotive Technology recently placed first in the Universal Technology Institute's Top Tech Challenge. Due to their high scores, BCTHS received a stocked UTI Snap-On toolbox valued at \$10,000 and a \$2,000 voucher for Snap-On Tools. Each student was also awarded \$1,000 in prize money.

Mr. Troy announced that SkillsUSA winners and Top Tech Challenge winners are indicative of the typical students we have here at BCTHS and he wanted to publically congratulate the school on doing such a great job.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

In Mr. Ody's absence, Mr. Morris stated that the WIB has been very busy lately and everyone is doing a great job despite the turnover in staff.

ENROLLMENT IMPACT

Dr. Poeske announced that we have had to turn away over 400 ninth grade students due to capacity. Approximately 400 freshmen attend BCTHS every year; 94% of which receive their first or second choice.

RENOVATIONS

It has been determined that BCTHS, especially landscaping offices, is underutilized. Dr. Poeske discussed the possibility of a faculty lounge/eating area and the possibility of renovating the Faculty Dining Room to make it actually look like a dining room, as opposed to a classroom with tables.

WORK-BASED EDUCATION UPDATE

School-to-Career Coordinators, Walt Hansell and Ron Martino, reported that they were in charge of recruitment this year. Middle School presentations were given in October, and Middle School tours were given in November. We received approximately 755 applications – our allotment is 400. There are currently 68 students in Co-op positions; 31 students are on Internships. Walt & Ron stated that they will continue to connect employers with skilled employees. Mr. Morris commended them on the great job they are doing.

ACT 153

Dr. Poeske discussed Act 153 and the impact it could have on work-based education. Act 153 states that anyone working with children (including employers) must have a background check as well as FBI and child abuse clearances.

EXPO

Dr. Poeske reported that the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce will be holding a trade show at Parx on May 13 & 14. He announced that the WIB may be able to secure buses for our students on May 13th.

EQUIPMENT GRANT

We recently received a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from PDE which will be put toward purchasing a digital printer for the Graphic Arts class.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Friday, May 8, 2015

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:45AM.

Submitted by:

Karen Needham