

## **BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL GENERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

A meeting of the General Advisory Council of Bucks County Technical High School was held on Friday, May 5, 2017 in the Board Room at BCTHS.

### **Members Present:**

Marlene Barlow, Bucks County Community College  
Nathan Cooper, President, Komfort Heat  
Brian Cummings, Director, PA CareerLink Bucks County  
Mike Gecht, Travel Ease, Ltd.  
Garney Morris, Garney Morris, Inc.  
Ed Needham, Sheet Metal Workers, Local #19 (Retired)  
Kevin Troy, SEPTA

### **Bucks County Technical High School**

Henry DeGeorge, Assistant Director  
Walter Hansell, School-to-Career Coordinator  
Ron Martino, School-to-Career Coordinator  
Leon Poeske, Administrative Director

The meeting was called to order at 8:38AM by Mr. Morris.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Morris**

A motion was made by Mr. Gecht, seconded by Mr. Cooper, that the minutes of the January 20, 2017 meeting be approved. Council members unanimously approved.

Mr. Morris welcomed new member, Marlene Barlow, who is the Director of Admissions at Bucks County Community College. Ms. Barlow will replace Catherine McElroy, who recently retired. Self-introductions followed.

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – Dr. Poeske**

Dr. Poeske discussed our capital improvement plan, followed by a PowerPoint presentation. He explained the role of the BCTS Authority and the areas of the school that need attention. Dr. Poeske stated that payments from the districts would remain at or below what they are currently paying.

### **EAGLE SCOUTS HONORED – Dr. Poeske**

Students, Evan Darroch and Josh Griffin were presented a certificate by Dr. Poeske for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Evan is a senior enrolled in our Civil Engineering Technology program and resides in the Pennsbury School District. Josh is a senior enrolled in our Green Energy Technologies program and resides in the Neshaminy School District.

### **UPDATE LABOR MARKET – Mr. Cummings**

Mr. Cummings reported on the economic outlook as of the end of March 2017. He stated that the current unemployment rate is 4.5% in the United States; in Pennsylvania, the rate is 5.0%; in Bucks County, the rate is 4.2%; and Bristol Township is at 5.9%. He added that 18,000+ people have come through the CareerLink doors this year.

## **General Advisory Council Recap**

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### **WORK-BASED EDUCATION UPDATE – Mr. Hansell**

- Mr. Hansell reported that he recently participated in Pennsbury's Active Shooter Drill which was held at Charles Boehm. He is a key contributor on their planning committee, as well as ours.
- 99 students are on co-op and 42 students are out on internships. The goal of the school-to-career coordinators is to have one-third of the seniors on co-op.
- One of our new employers, Elrath Construction, donated tile, cabinets, ceiling tile and trim to the carpentry program.
- Our landscaping teacher will be working at BCTHS this summer with 12 students performing various maintenance tasks on the grounds of our school.
- Mr. Hansell stated that his office conducts the senior survey, the career goals state report, as well as the post-graduate survey three times a year in order to meet PDE requirements.

### **SCHOOL UPDATES – Mr. DeGeorge**

- Mr. DeGeorge announced that the Class of 2017 will graduate on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Sun Bank Arena.
- Field day is Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The week of May 8<sup>th</sup> is NOCTI testing.
- We will be offering three new advanced placement classes beginning with the 2017-2018 school year: Environmental Studies, Introduction to Stats, and Physical Science.
- Our carpentry class recently built two sheds for Conwell-Egan Catholic High School.
- Cabinetmaking students are restoring old church pews for a church in Bensalem.
- When asked if we have a substitute teacher issue at BCTHS, Mr. DeGeorge stated that our teachers' attendance has been very good this year. We have had no problems.
- Mr. DeGeorge stated that every five years, PDE conducts a review/audit of each CTC. This is the Approved Program Evaluation in accordance with state regulation in Chapter 339. BCTHS will have an on-site audit on November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> for all twenty-eight of our programs.

### **GRANT UPDATES – Dr. Poeske**

- Dr. Poeske announced that a part-time grant writer was recently hired at BCTHS.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mr. Morris discussed naming rights for the BCTHS auditorium.

The next meeting will tentatively be held on Friday, September 15 (but this may change).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05am.

Submitted by:

Karen Needham