

BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL GENERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

A meeting of the General Advisory Council of Bucks County Technical High School was held on Friday, October 21, 2016 in the Board Room at Bucks County Technical High School.

Members Present:

Nathan Cooper, President, Komfort Heat
Brian Cummings, Director, PA CareerLink Bucks County (new member)
Mike Gecht, Travel Ease, Ltd.
Catherine McElroy, Bucks County Community College
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
Kevin Ody, Workforce Development Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 8:35AM by Mr. Morris.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. McElroy, seconded by Mr. Needham, that the minutes of the May 20, 2016 meeting be approved. Council members unanimously approved.

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Mr. Morris welcomed new member, Mr. Brian Cummings, Director, PA CareerLink Bucks County; self-introductions followed.

THE FOLLOWING WAS DISCUSSED

Mr. DeGeorge discussed our upcoming 339 review.

Mr. DeGeorge announced that BCTHS is working on a “super” articulation agreement with Bucks County Community College and Bloomsburg University. A handout was distributed explaining this agreement.

We are just shy of 1,500 students with a current enrollment of 1,483.

Mr. DeGeorge discussed on-going renovations throughout the building. We are currently in phase I of our air conditioning upgrade and we are currently working in G-Hall upstairs. We have four more areas to complete as long as our budget allows.

We are anxious to begin our restaurant renovation to make it look more like a full-service restaurant. We hope to begin during the summer.

We have scheduled a feasibility study with D’Huy Engineering to see how we can use our building more effectively.

Mr. DeGeorge reported that over 260 business and industry members attended the OAC Committee meetings on October 19, 2016, where facilities and equipment were reviewed. Two OAC meetings must be held each year; the next meeting will be held in the spring.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Ody distributed copies of the new Adult Education brochure. He mentioned that we are the only technical school offering three apprenticeship programs. He stated that we have good numbers in plumbing/heating and electrical occupations technology. In addition, a class called, Medical Billing and coding have taken off.

LABOR MARKET DATA

Mr. Cummings mentioned that unemployment numbers in Bucks County is 4.8% and 5.7 in PA. There are more jobs than people, especially technical jobs. Mr. DeGeorge mentioned that our job fair will be held on October 27th.

SCHOOL-TO-CAREER

Mr. Hansell reported that 16 students will attend the PFEW Roundtable Discussions at the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Hansell and Mr. Martino have visited 10 out of 12 middle schools recruiting students to apply to BCTHS. During the month of November, interested students will come to BCTHS to take a tour.

Manufacturing day was October 7th. Mr. Martino took several students to visit various manufacturing locations.

Mr. Hansell, who is on our Crisis Committee, continues to conduct active shooter training for our staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ody announced that we are bringing back the car show. Although it is still in the planning stages, the car show is scheduled for April 22, 2017.

Mr. DeGeorge announced that he will be giving a tour of our new Child Development & Early Learning classroom for anyone who is interested.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Friday, April 28, 2017 at 8:30am

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57AM.

Submitted by:

Karen Needham