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Training for Upward Mobility and Labor Market Value

February 12, 2019, 11:30 AM

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Dalia Place, Sterling Brown, Nikki McDougald, Stephanie Sims, Tangela Keaton, Cathy Ector, Vielka Maria Gabriel, Richard B. Moore, Verna Best

- Welcome and Introductions
- Meeting called to order by Cathy Ector at 11:30 AM.
 - The TUM committee has 3 goals. The major challenge is recognizing how we can complete them.
 - Sterling Brown wrote a letter to the superintendent about TUM and how they could connect with WCPSS since the target area is primarily SE Raleigh.
- Career and Technical Education Program: Leslie Brickhouse, Career Development Coordinator(CDC) of SE Raleigh Magnet HS
 - Program Overview/Goals
 - Wake County offers career technical education (CTE) to promote college and career readiness to include students with career pathways that don't require attending a four-year university. Most CTE students graduate with a high school diploma and their associate degree from Wake Tech. All CTE is paid for by WCPSS while students are enrolled and up until the summer of their senior year in high school.
 - Career opportunities in high school (internships and job shadowing) can be beneficial for students seeking workforce experience by exposing them to career pathways to gauge their interests. This will help students make better choices about their future like obtaining a job, higher wages and more promotions.
 - Wake County is currently the only county that has a CDC at every high school and the only one that has them in middle schools. A CTE curriculum continuum is created for all years of high school and middle school.
 - 6th and 7th grade is for career awareness. 8th-12th grade is for career exploration. At the beginning of their 9th grade year, they have a career interest inventory. Students also receive career pathways (like IEPs) so they can choose the CTE courses they'd like to take. There is an opportunity to gain up to 4 career credentials. They can begin these courses in 11th and 12th grade.
 - Vielka Gabriel asked if there were any prerequisites to take these CTE courses. Leslie replied that most programs only require a 2.0 GPA.
 - Sites
 - Vernon Malone, North Wake Academy, and Crossroads FLEX offer CTE. Crossroads Flex offers programs that Vernon Malone and North Wake Academy

don't. Crossroads FLEX is great for students that travel. Most of the curriculum is online. It's a hybrid between Vernon Malone and North Wake Academy.

- The magnet school population does not represent the base population. This is never the intention of WCPSS. In fact, base population students have more rights and privileges in magnet schools than magnets students. Leslie also offers opportunities to base population students exclusively.
- Most of the base population students are unaware that they have priority. One of Leslie's goals is to level the playing field and make certain that students receive this information in the way that they prefer to receive it.
- Information about these programs is communicated through multiple different avenues (passing out flyers at sporting events, including flyer in the morning announcements, teachers give out information during class time, etc.) The most effective has been setting up a booth outside of the cafeteria.
- Areas of collaboration gaps/barriers in services
 - Tangela Keaton asked what type of knowledge and marketing of these opportunities is communicated to students. Leslie responded that regardless of the size of the school, there are only certain amounts of CDCs. Therefore, the level of programming and opportunities vary among schools. Leslie mentioned that at times she will pay out of her own pockets to get a program started and to gain momentum. All CDCs are not able to do this. Also, sometimes there is no funding for the specific programs that the students want.
 - CDCs must maintain a Business Alliance constructed of community partners and businesses. The BA meets monthly to discuss things that impact the school and help keep CDCs, students, and parents aware of the climate in the business industry.
- Group Discussion/Big Ideas
 - A yearly county wide event for students from different schools to meet people in their current industry. This event is great for networking, leadership development, exposure to industry, etc.
 - County wide career fairs
 - Industry tours (like job shadowing but with a group of 10 students or more).
 - Lunch & learns
 - Guest speakers
 - Recruitment/joining of BA
 - TUM can be a bridge for all regional CDC's
- Next Steps:
 - There will be a summer job career fair April 25th. There will be a smaller fair prior to this to help students prepare, date TBD.
 - Hosting regional events that support efforts of regional CDCs.
 - Support for BA recruitment
 - Leslie has agreed to attend TUM meetings as our connection to WCPSS.

- The Wake County Commissioners have proclaimed the month of September as Workforce Development month. Additional information will be coming soon.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: March 12, 11:30 AM