

Career Connect Pathway Advisories
March 2023
Pathway Team Agenda

<p>Welcome</p> <p>Present: Angela DeVries, Bridgette Elston, Cindy Goss, Craig Williams, Demecia LaBarre, Eric Stewart, Jim Benton, Kenzie Andrysiak, Tom Hoopes</p> <p>We briefly went over the agenda for the meeting. We had everyone go around and introduce themselves and tell us about their internship experience.</p>
<p>Follow-up from January</p> <p>Thank you for your feedback in January. We are processing it with the architects and will keep everyone looped in on the progress of the Career Connect Campus and individual spaces.</p>
<p>Career Connect Metrics in Focus</p> <p><u>Metrics Overview:</u> We passed out copies of the Career Connect Metrics. These are our Career Connect goals that we find aspirational but achievable. We took a few minutes for the group to look over the metrics. One question that was asked was what cultural cornerstone #1 meant. ABAR All Day Every Day is one of our core values here at KRESA. Another question was what an EDP is. This stands for Educational Development Plan. An example of this is Xello. If there are any questions or concerns with the metrics, please let Cindy, Jim, and Kenzie know.</p> <p><u>Mobile Lab Overview + Discussion:</u> Metrics #7, 8 and 9: One event we offer is MiCareer Quest. This is like a job fair set up, but it has hands-on activities for students. This event is for 8th grade students around the county. Career Awareness and Exploration – Career coaches are all over the place serving different needs either individually or with groups of all ages. They help to get students on a career path. We also offer industry tours. Counselors will gather interest from high schoolers and then we take them on an industry tour based on their interests.</p> <p>Mobile Lab: Career Connect has a team working on a mobile lab. The pictures of the mobile lab are mockups. We are building a lab that can be mobile that we can take to students and families so that we bring the event to them. The idea is to have hands on learning experiences for students. We want to increase the number of learners aware of high demand careers, increase student interest and community awareness of the Career Connect Campus, and integrate curriculum and activities. The lab will be able to be used year-round. It will showcase multiple career paths. It will be high-tech and hands on. We are planning to start with manufacturing but it will be flexible so we can showcase other pathways. The mobile lab will get students who are younger to start thinking about their future and what’s available at the Career Connect Campus. The goal is to start using this in the fall of the 2023-2024 school year. How many students/family members do we envision to be able to use this at the same time? We are thinking about a class size of around 25. Our goal is to be able to drive it to a school and let the school use it for a couple days and allow teachers to build lessons around it. Will it be contained all inside or will it be inside and outside? There is still discussion around that.</p>



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There is a possibility of using an awning, tent, etc. Is there an area for students to take notes or is it just hands on? We will be focused on hands on and having the students rotating through the trailer so that they can engage in activities. Students will use their classrooms for the lesson side of things and note taking. There is a concern for that many students in a trailer at once. The response to this is that there will be lots of rotating around. There will also be lots of opportunities for simulations and software to get students active and interacting. For example, there would be around 4-5 stations at a time. The group really likes the idea of using simulations. For example, there are simulations for welding tasks, operating a forklift, and much more. Stryker has OR mobile labs that we could look at for marketing/ideas if needed. Everyone really likes the idea of an immersive experience. Is there going to be a pole barn or garage that we keep the trailer in as needed? Where will it be stored? We like the fact that we are showcasing careers so early on with students to get them interested. We wonder if we could have students build something that they could take home. For example, you could make things like chip clips, mini cars, foam planes, magnets, etc. It would be cool to add the Career Connect logos to these too using stickers or something along those lines. How do we do all the changeouts? For example, if it's at a school for the day and then goes to an after-school program. We can change the contents inside if we have enough people to help switch things out and store contents. Is it a fifth wheel style? It will be a long gooseneck trailer that can be pulled with a truck. Will there be a parent engagement that goes home with the kids? We want to make sure we are also engaging the adults. We'd like to see the mobile lab at these locations: Family in the park days, YMCA, school parking lots, food truck days, girl scouts, festivals/fairs, after school programming locations, and locations with adults to expose them too.

Summer Work-Based Learning Overview + Discussion:

Metric #14:

We want Career Connect learners to participate in internships/apprenticeships.

MyCity:

This program is offered to ages 14-24. This is a paid summer career pathway planning and work experience program. Career 101 is for ages 14-15 and is more project-based. Career 2.0 is for ages 16-21 and is actual internships. Students learn the tools to be successful in their career paths. Program dates are from June to August.

CareerNow:

This is a year-round program for students who want short term training to get to where they want career wise. These would be pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships. For example, CNA is offered to help individuals with getting their certification/credential as they are working towards nursing. CareerNow serves young adults ages 16 to 24. The main focus is for recent graduates or those who are just about to graduate. Some CareerNow trainings include CNA, Construction Trades, Early Childhood Education, EMT, etc. There are always opportunities with the industry partners to work with us on these.

How can we as industry partners get involved?

- Host an intern or a group of MyCity interns for 7 weeks this summer
- Connect with CareerNow to host interns or apprentices
- Share our applications and information to the youth
- Join an info session to learn more
 - Tuesday, April 4th 10-11am
 - Thursday, April 6th 1-2pm



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Discussion:

The Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Airport has a program where they bring in WMU students in for an internship and place them through the business side of things and the Aviation side. It's important to make sure there is a record of what the students are trained on, and staff aren't just signing off on forms. Stryker has a very large internship program. They learn what the students want to get out of the experience and then form their internship around that. They also provide check-ins with the interns and opportunities to form relationships with the people they work with. Southwest Michigan First has a great event where they get interns from all around together. The best possible experience with an intern would be being mindful with the interns and connecting people and making sure the interns have a psychologically safe experience. Companies are looking for interns who show up on time and are team oriented. Internships should be used to work with individuals to learn their strengths and build on their weaknesses.

Closing Comments

Reminders: Share Your Career Story + Demographic Data Collection

Save the Date! May 24, 2023, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM at the Radisson
End of year celebration for all the advisory groups to come together.

Angela will be setting up an industry tour at Pfizer for our group prior to the May meeting. Stay tuned!