

DAVIDSONWORKS BOARD MEETING

Minutes

- DATE:** Thursday, October 26, 2017
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Yarbrough's Restaurant – Lexington, NC
- MEMBERS:** Board Chair-Neal Grimes, Vice Chair-Jane Murphy, Don Clinard, Lee Comer, Dr. Russ Gobble, Steve Lineberger, Steve Moore, Sandy Motley, Dr. Patrice Faison, Hal Routh, Richard Michaels, and Barry Sink
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kevin Chapman, Scott Biesecker, David Davis, Stacy English, Randy Everhart, Steve Gooze, Dan Matthews, Jeff McIntyre, Eddie Lothridge, Dale Moorefield, Dr. Mary Rittling, Fred McClure, Pat Phillips, Mike Sharpe, Ellen Welborn, Steve Shell and Buck Yarbrough
- STAFF:** Pam Walton, Tim Maness, Beth Mitchell, Cris Waugh, Sondra Willis, and Eric Torrence
- GUESTS:** Dr. W.V. Yarbrough, Career Pathways Facilitator for the Piedmont Triad Region; Crag Goodson, Davidson County Economic Development; Jim Crawford, Business Liaison at Yadkin Valley Career Academy; Elizabeth Huff, DSS Davidson County (for Dale Moorefield)
- HANDOUTS:** Agenda / Minutes / TriadWorks Certified Career Pathways flyer

RECAP of October 26, 2017 Meeting

1. Board Chair-Neal Grimes called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his or her attendance
2. Minutes from the August 31, 2017 were approved
3. Pam Walton gave the WDB an update on DavidsonWorks Relocation
4. Career Pathways Certification update
5. Disability Employment Awareness Month – Richard Michaels
6. Committee updates

I. Welcome / Introductions / Approval of Minutes

Board Chair – Neal Grimes called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his or her attendance.

DavidsonWorks Relocation Update

Pam stated that DavidsonWorks has moved into their new office, customers and employers are utilizing the center. Pam stated that there have been some issues with asbestos in the government buildings and the Lexington NCWorks Career Center is one of those buildings. As of right now, we are still waiting for further instructions from the inspectors before we can finish hanging job boards, etc.

Career Pathway Certification

Dr. W.V. Yarbrough, Career Pathways Facilitator for the Piedmont Triad Region talked about pathway certification. She took a moment to explain that we all have heard of career pathways for many years, we normally think of a structured connected program support services that provide education, training traditionally for adult, dislocated workers, and youth. The NCWorks Certified Career Pathways are seamless systems of education in workforce development programs. The primary purpose is to match worker preparation to employer needs in high demand. The certified pathways meet 8 best practices criteria, which are:

- Must be demand driven and data informed
 - Employer engagement
 - Collaborative efforts
 - Career Awareness
 - Articulation and Coordination
 - Work-Based Learning
 - Multiple Points of Entry and Exit
 - Evaluation
- (see handout for more details)

Dr. Yarbrough, stated that there are 23 pathways in the state of North Carolina. The first pathway was certified February 2016, in the Northeast, in Healthcare, and since that time, 22 others have become certified. Next month, the projection is to have 4 additional pathways certified. One of those pathways is through the Piedmont Triad, which will have a unique approach to the certified pathway concept. TriadWorks consists of 4 Workforce Development Boards, they have been working collaboratively for years, and opted to collaborate to develop the pathways. Each of the 4 Workforce Developments took the lead on one of the certified career pathway applications.

Dr. Yarbrough, shared what she called her career pathway “Dream Bag” with the WDB, she started with Health Science, (Nursing), this one has been led by the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board. Their pathway was certified in October of last year, so now we are in the 1-year mark, at the end of one year there is a 1-year check-in, which consist of how things are coming along, but recertification is during the 3-year mark.

The second and third pathways that were certified on the same day and they are, Advanced Manufacturing led by Regional Partnership and Aviation led by Guilford. When we think about advanced manufacturing we typically think of automobiles, etc. but it’s also in pharmaceutical, cosmetics industry, and food industry. In advanced manufacturing, manufacturing is usually done with a computer and robot.

Aviation led by GuilfordWorks, this pathway was certified in August 2017. When we think of aviation, we think of pilots; but in the aviation pathway, the focus is on aeronautical engineering, aviation mechanics, and pilots.

The next pathway is Transportation and Logistics, led by DavidsonWorks. This pathway will focus on mechanic technicians, truck driving, and distribution and fulfillment. Dr. Yarbrough, stated the plan is to do a rollout that will consist of a webinar, as well as a kickoff. The Piedmont Triad has 14 counties represented by our pathways. The Piedmont Triad will be the first to have 4-workforce development boards that have 4 certified pathways next month. Out of the 14 counties, there are 10 community colleges, 15 local education agencies, more than 40 employers and partners.

Ms. Yarbrough gave time for Q&A

Dr. Patrice Faison asked board members as well as Dr. Yarbrough to help assist with implementing some of these pathways in the Thomasville City School system. After much discussion, Steve Moore suggested an ad hoc committee with Dr. Faison taking the lead, along with 3-4 from the Davidson Workforce Development Board to address these issues. Mr. Moore said input from the Superintendents is what is missing from the WDB, and this may be a good way to get them all on board.

II. Disability Employment Awareness

Richard Michaels - Business Relations Representative for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), spoke to the board about disability employment. October is National Employee Disability Awareness Month. In 1945, Congress enacted a law declaring the 1st week in October being “National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week”. In 1988, Congress extended this week to a month and changed the name to Disability Employment Awareness Month. This year’s theme is “Inclusion Brings Innovation”.

Richard opened the invitation to the WDB to contact him if they had any questions related to disability issues. Richard is located at the NCWorks Career Centers a few days during the week; there he helps customers who visit the center who may have a disability or by referral.

Committee Updates

Youth Council

Don stated that the Youth Council meeting in September was held at the Yadkin Valley Academy. This was an enlightening visit, the Youth Council had the opportunity to tour the school and talk with the students. Yadkin Valley is doing some awesome things in their classrooms and with their students.

III. Remarks

Yadkin Valley

Barry Sink, stated that Yadkin Valley is now 5-years old, and this year the school received an “A” grade on the school grading system. Barry also noted that not many schools got an A

grade, and he wanted the WDB to keep in mind that 70% of the students are first generation students and 60% are considered at-risk.

Jim Crawford, Business Liaison at Yadkin Valley Career Academy, invited the WDB to attend Yadkin Valley “Open House Exhibition” on November 30th, from 5:30PM – 7:00PM.

NCWorks Partnership Conference

Neal mentioned that during the month of October he attended the NCWorks Partnership Conference along with some of the DavidsonWorks staff. There they had the opportunity to meet the new Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Napoleon Wallace. Neal invited Mr. Wallace to attend one of our WDB meetings, and he said he would love to attend.

Next meeting

The next WDB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2018

Adjournment

Time having expired; the meeting was adjourned.