

The Career Pathways Committee met at 1pm on Jan. 12, 2017.

Introductions were made by those in the room:

Those in attendance included:

Peggy Geib, Scott Fry, Chuck Mills, Jake Yunker, H.L. Baird, Stephanie Cameron, Lauren Ellis, Kevin Arnold, Tracy Brigham, Beki Miller, Daniel Craig, Jeff Greenlee, Scott Smith, Kat Long, David Crow, Steve Shepelwich, Chuck Gray, Cindy Koss, Sarah Ashmore.

Jake Yunker, with Gov. Mary Fallin's office, explained the Launch Oklahoma program. Goal set for 70% attainment in the next 8 years for workforce 25-64 to have something beyond high school diploma. This equals to about 600,000 people needing a credential.

Jake explained the need to get existing workers up-skilled. Especially workers who are now in their 30s and 40s.

A discussion centered on the need for Veterans to get certificates, Oklahoma under-utilizing VA benefits/GI Bill education component. Oklahoma one of four states not allowing certain GI Bill benefits to be used in certain situations.

Cindy Koss, with the Oklahoma State Dept. of Education, joined the meeting and gave a quick update on the New Skills for Youth Grant and how Oklahoma was one of ten states to receive funding. Oklahoma will receive \$2 million to implement the grant. Cindy will give a more in-depth update at the next meeting.

The committee then discussed a recap of the KEN meetings between the KEN Champions and the designated Career Pathways Champion.

Stephanie Cameron spoke about meetings in Tulsa, eastern, and northeast including the importance of increasing internships, tours and aligning resources. .

Kat Long talked about her meeting with northwest.

Kevin Arnold talked about his meeting with central.

David Crow and Sarah Ashmore discussed the meetings with southwest, south central, and southern since those Career Pathways Champions couldn't join us.

Sarah spoke out about the need to build stronger KEN relationships and learn more about the unique needs of our KEN areas.

Jeff Greenlee, the southwest KEN, was at the Career Pathways meeting and briefed the group on workforce efforts in the Altus area including an acute need for aerospace mechanics at Altus AFB.

Chuck Mills discussed the importance of having a connection with Career Tech superintendents and Workforce Development Boards.

The committee discussed driver's license issues in rural areas. Several members reported fewer young people attaining licenses which is limiting their career and internship exposure. It's also creating certain workforce transportation issues in places like Ponca City.

The committee discussed quarterly meeting dates for 2017.

Dates for those meetings are:

April 20, 2017

July 20, 2017

October 19, 2017

The group discussed the creation of a Career pathways subcommittee that would look at the workforce by KEN region and focus on skill demand/gaps, as well as future workforce needs etc..

David Crow and Sarah Ashmore will work on the framework on the committee including the need for a charter/purpose.

Steve Shepelwich with the Federal Reserve and Cindy Koss plan to present at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 3pm.