

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

## State Workforce Youth Council

Meeting Date: June 7, 2019  
 Meeting Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
 Meeting Location: Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City  
 900 N. Portland, Oklahoma City, OK  
 BT 304A, Business Technologies Bldg., 3rd floor

### AGENDA

Welcome & Introductions	Steve Shepelwich, Co-Chair	10:00am – 10:10am
Review of April 5 Meeting Minutes (Vote for approval)	Co-Chairs	10:10am – 10:15am
Presentation on Oklahoma School Report Cards	Maria Harris, Misty Agarwal & Marissa Lightsey, Oklahoma State Department of Education	10:15am – 10:35am
Presentation on Kuder Galaxy for elementary career awareness	AJ Crowell & Nathan Brubaker, CareerTech	10:35am – 11:00am
Subcommittee Discussion & Meeting Time	Subcommittee leads	11:00am – 11:40am
Updates from Subcommittees	Subcommittee leads	11:40am – 11:50am
Old Business New Business	Co-Chairs	11:50am – 12:00pm
Adjourn	Co-Chairs	12:00pm
<b><i>Next Meeting August 2, 2019</i></b>		

### ATTACHMENTS

- April 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes (Draft for approval)

**ATTENDEES**

Steve Shepelwich, co-chair	Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
Lance Allee, member	OKCareerTech
Curtis Calvin, member	OETA
Karen Davidson, member	Southern Workforce Board
Robert Greenlaw, member	KimRay
Greg Hall, member	Youth Advocate
Kerry Manning, member	Southern Workforce Board
Lester Claravall, member	Oklahoma Department of Labor
Marissa Lightsey, member	Oklahoma State Department of Education
Rhonda Mize, member	Choctaw Nation
Darrell Strong, guest	OETA
AJ Crowell, guest	OKCareerTech
Nathan Brubaker, guest	OKCareerTech
Maria Harris, guest	Oklahoma State Department of Education
Misty Agarwal, guest	Oklahoma State Department of Education
Megan Ellis, guest	Oklahoma Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
Darcee Simon, staff	Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Welcome & Introductions**

At approximately 10:03am, Steve Shepelwich began the meeting by welcoming the committee members. He asked for everyone to introduce themselves with their names, current role and first job. Steve reminded the committee of the common vision to connect more youth with their “first jobs” and identified patterns of service in many of the responses shared. Steve announced that two new members had been appointed to the committee, Phil Lakin and Shannan Beeler.

**Review and Approval of April 5, 2019 Minutes**

Steve asked for a motion to approve the April 5, 2019 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Robert Greenlaw and seconded by Curtis Calvin. The motion passed unanimously.

Before the presentations began, Steve shared a video for a school signing day event in Missouri that invites employers and higher education partners to celebrate post-

secondary commitments for graduating seniors entering the workforce or higher education, similar to an athletic signing day event Link to School Signing Day video (01:25): <https://youtu.be/5Smx9zKgxE>. Robert commended the creation of a moment that could be elevated for other students and referenced a book used by KimRay by Chip Heath titled *The Power of Moments: Why Certain Experiences Have Extraordinary Impact*. Steve mentioned that the Missouri schools had local news coverage for the days and that he spoke with the superintendent from the video who described how much excitement and support has contributed to the growth of their efforts. He also noted that this year there were 12 school-based apprenticeship programs that were started.

### **Presentation on Oklahoma School Report Cards**

Steve welcomed Maria Harris, Executive Director of Accountability, from the Oklahoma State Department of Education to share more about the new Oklahoma School Report Cards. Maria expressed an opportunity and intention of the new report cards and the dynamic dashboard to allow schools and communities to celebrate progress and accountability achievements made just like the signing day video that Steve had shown. Maria noted that the previous format for school report cards was a static PDF document with a letter grade. She referenced the website for school report cards at [www.oklaschools.com](http://www.oklaschools.com) and stated that the 2017-2018 school year report cards are now online and the plan is to release 2019 report cards in November for state board approval. Maria demonstrated the report card website to search for schools and discussed the data elements that are displayed on the dashboard. She clarified that report cards are by school, not district.

Maria referenced Programs of Excellence, led by Levi Patrick at SDE, which allows schools to celebrate their unique work based on the level of commitment within their respective communities. These standards demonstrate strengths and progress above and beyond the federal requirements for accountability. On a school report card, emblems may be illuminated with bronze, silver, or gold recognition of school commitments and evidence of results as determined by the Programs of Excellence standards and rubrics.

After demonstrating an elementary and a high school report card page and explaining the data elements respective to each, Maria asked if there were specific areas of interest from the council for her to further elaborate on. Robert stated that he was impressed with the dashboard and wondered if the team designed it following the lead of another state's work on accountability. Maria responded that this approach is pretty unique to Oklahoma. At an annual meeting of a national conference of accountability

directors, Oklahoma had the opportunity to demonstrate its dashboard in comparison to a group of states who utilize the same vendor. Oklahoma has a vendor out of Indiana who exclusively works with them, which has allowed for more flexibility in the customization of the dashboard. She noted that the Programs of Excellence model is very innovative and follows a concept of flipped accountability where schools internally assess what they are doing to uniquely serve their students. Rubrics have been developed statewide by groups of teachers and schools can self-identify and demonstrate how they are meeting the criteria set forth in them for three year designation as a bronze, silver, or gold Program of Excellence. She stated that they will be adding English language arts and computer science soon. This year report cards will have a blue illuminated icon for any program of excellence that a school is in the process of working on and has identified as a priority focus area.

AJ Crowell asked if post-secondary opportunities reflect efforts to develop and establish work-based learning activities for students. Maria responded that it will be for high school students. She also referenced the “About Our School” tab which provides contextual information in addition to the federally required information for each school. She mentioned that may be a place to also feature information about work-based learning.

Marissa mentioned that this committee is looking at career readiness indicators and asked the Work Ready/Career Ready School subcommittee to share more about what they are looking for. Lester Claravall explained that the subcommittee is hoping to identify school-level indicators of work and career readiness in a way that it complementary to ICAP. Rhonda Mize added that the focus was primarily on high school students initially. Maria wondered if this could potentially fit in with the Program of Excellence framework and topics. Marissa stated that her understanding was that there is a common baseline for each Program of Excellence and referenced her conversation with Lester and Rhonda about how to communicating school career readiness efforts for students to employers and community members. Maria stated that she and Levi would be happy to be part of the conversation as the subcommittee continues their work. Megan Ellis asked if the website had the capacity to filter searches for schools by Program of Excellence classification and Maria answered that it’s not there yet, but there are future plans for that. The developer is also working on a matching algorithm to identify “like” schools. Darcee Simon asked if every school is required to have a Program of Excellence and Maria responded that it is on everyone’s report card page, but it is optional for schools to opt in. Darcee followed up with a question about whether having Programs of Excellence qualify schools for additional funding and Maria said it didn’t. She stated that there is roughly a \$15,000 investment



for a school to build a Program of Excellence in terms of time and resources spent, but it falls within the funding schools have for Title 4A. Lester invited Maria, Marissa and Levi to attend the next Work Ready/Career Ready School subcommittee meeting to share more. He also extended the invitation to other Youth Council members who are not currently on the subcommittee.

Kerry Manning added that she had one more question about priority school information which has not been updated since 2016. She asked if Maria or Marissa know anything about the timeline for updating that. Maria clarified that priority school is in reference to the low performing designations and responded that the new report cards include new designations under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The previous designations were from the No Child Left Behind Act. The new designations under ESSA are Comprehensive Support and Improvement and Targeted Support and Improvement, which are both currently listed on the State Department of Education's website on the School Support page (<https://sde.ok.gov/school-support>) underneath the tab for Designated Sites on the right hand side. Comprehensive Support and Improvement represents the bottom 5%. Kerry added that being on the list is part of an eligibility requirement for Title I Youth. Maria referenced the spreadsheet on the SDE website and that the designations are being added to the dashboard. Kerry stated that the service providers are still using the old list. Darcee offered to send the information out in a follow-up email from the meeting in addition to the meeting minutes. Curtis asked Maria to briefly explain the support designations. She responded that under ESSA there are 3 designations: Comprehensive Support and Improvement (bottom 5% of all schools), Targeted Support and Improvement (averages in the bottom 5% across 3 years in 2 or more indicators), and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI). The calculation for ATSI is being finalized, but it looks at groups that are not being served at your school and serves as a red flag warning of potential to be TSI. The Office of School Support and Improvement helps CSI and TSI. Maria thanked the committee for their time.

### **Presentation on Kuder Galaxy**

Steve invited Nathan Brubaker from OKCareerTech to present on the new Kuder Galaxy through OK Career Guide. Nathan explained that the goal is to make students aware of what is work and offer opportunities to explore career options. He played an introductory video to Kuder Galaxy ([https://youtu.be/3hQx\\_RPg9Ro](https://youtu.be/3hQx_RPg9Ro)). Nathan explained that Kuder Galaxy is an online, gaming platform that is a teacher-driven mixed learning system that combines online activities supported by class discussions and activities. He explained that Kuder Galaxy is for Pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> grade in preparation for the tools and experience of OKCareerGuide. The curriculum is based on the Holland Theory of

Vocational Awareness and themes to understand types of work according to self-identified traits and characteristics (Investigative – Thinkers, Artistic – Creators, Social – Helpers, Enterprising – Persuaders, Conventional – Organizers, Realistic – Doers). The program is designed to promote self-awareness and equity through a space theme with grade level characters. It promotes self-direction and builds student motivation towards a strong work ethic.

There are six planets that each represent one lesson or activity for students to complete in order to earn badges and learn more about their likes/dislikes and gain exposure to different types of jobs and careers. The lessons are approximately 40 minutes and include the development of “I statements” that align with state standards. There is parent support for each planet of every grade level with additional information, activities, and discussion questions for families.

Robert asked about program availability and funding. Nathan responded that the program is available to all elementary students and it set up at no cost to schools or users through their elementary schools. Training is provided by CareerTech for schools and teachers. Greg Hall asked how widely it is being used and Nathan answered that it was just rolled out in March 2019. He said they are trying to get the word out and will be attending the EngageOK conference across Oklahoma to let as many teachers know about as possible. Nathan noted the benefit to teachers to use this tool to get to know their students and learn more about their preferences and areas of interest.

Megan asked about plans to extend it beyond schools to community partners like YMCA. Nathan responded that there have been discussions and it’s already been expanded to technology centers for their outreach and summer camp programming. AJ Crowell added that for OKCareerGuide, any user can make an account and begin using it at any time. For Galaxy, there is an additional step on the back end to set up an account through a school or organization. The logistics are the only barrier, but the goal is to promote usage and access to as many students as possible. Steve mentioned that the focus is usually on 6-12 for career readiness and asked if the focus on PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade was part of a broader trend. Nate responded that it prepares students for the 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade conversations about making plans and knowing what types of work there are. It can build student investment and background knowledge as they prepare for ICAP in the upper grades.

Nathan distributed handouts for Kuder Galaxy and thanked the committee for their time. AJ also offered himself and Nate to attend and present about Galaxy at any other

events or trainings that committee members may be involved with and asked the committee members to please help spread the word.

### **Subcommittee Discussion & Meeting Time**

At approximately 11:10am the committee divided into subcommittees for discussion and meeting time. The subcommittees met in work time for approximately 35 minutes and reconvened at 11:45am to provide updates.

### **Updates from Subcommittees**

Steve reconvened the full committee and asked for each subcommittee to share a brief update.

*ICAP* – Marissa stated that EngageOK will begin the second week of July and Youth Council members are more than welcome to attend. It is a statewide professional development event for teachers that is held in five locations across the state. There will also be regional ICAP workshops in late July. The main audience will be educators, but everyone is invited. This training is for people with varying degrees of ICAP familiarity and awareness. Rhonda added that she was surprised that some teachers in her area had a very limited awareness of ICAP in a recent conversation she had. Marissa mentioned that it may vary across districts as some may not be implementing at all grade levels or may be in different stages of the implementation process. Planning may still be in the works at the district level and not yet reached teachers as of yet. The legal graduation requirement goes into effect for all 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshmen students in Oklahoma public schools.

*Work Ready/Career Ready Certification* – Rhonda Mize reported that the subcommittee is looking forward to an all-day work session on June 26<sup>th</sup>. She echoed Lester's invitation to Marissa, Maria, and Levi to join the meeting and hoped to have full subcommittee attendance at the meeting. Steve asked about the goal of the meeting and Rhonda responded that it will be to solidify the criteria and process for evaluating a Work Ready/Career Ready School.

*Resources & Outreach* – Curtis Calvin reported that Marissa joined the subcommittee discussion and the subcommittee brainstormed resources and services that currently exist in the state that can be identified to support schools with ICAP implementation. The current goal of the group is to develop a matrix of available resources and then develop a proposal for a platform for sharing work ready resources for youth.

*High School Equivalency* – Kerry Manning reported that the subcommittee will serve on and support both the Youth Programs Committee and the Career Pathways Committee of the Governor’s Council. Awareness of alternative programming can help retain and prevent dropouts at the K-12 levels and ultimately fulfill the goal of educational attainment. The Governor has a very high expectation for educational attainment and Steve echoed the ability of this subcommittee to reach our priority focus area population of disconnected youth. He mentioned that the Governor’s Council is working on developing an updated Strategic Plan that will be directly supported by many of the initiatives and priority areas of the Youth Programs Committee.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**Next Meeting**

Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 10am  
Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City Campus  
Business Technologies Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, BT304A

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:57am.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Darcee Simon*

