

WESTERN AREA CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER
JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE
March 20, 2024

Following an Executive Session held prior to the meeting for discussion of personnel matters, the meeting was called to order by JOC President Melissa P. Secco in the Multipurpose Room at 6:30 PM with the following in attendance:

	Board Delegate		Alternate		Also In Attendance
	Missy Dryer		Tia Shore		Cyril Walther, Superintendent
X	Melissa P. Secco		Amy Lemmon	X	Michael Milanovich
X	Ann Marie Miller		Bernard Price	X	James Purtell
X	Robert J. Mele		Richard Hall	X	Kimberly A. Siegman
	Paul Bianchini		Julie Sepesy	X	Steffie Smith
X	Monique Frye		Aaron Vanatta	X	John Hosa, Esq.
X	Rebecca A. Bowman, Esq.		Kathleen Chaudhari		
	Gregory Z. Rudman		J. R. Slagle		
X	Tara Sparks-Gatling		Amy Roberts		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

STUDENT OF THE MONTH | CAELIN McGOWAN | McGUFFEY SD | COSMETOLOGY

Caelin has completed her required program hours and is currently searching for a cooperative education position. As a leader in the Cosmetology program, she is always willing to lend a hand to help her peers and is very interested in learning as much as she can within the cosmetology industry. She is an active 3-year member of SkillsUSA and has represented Western Area at multiple Skills competitions and Western Region Leadership Conferences at Seven Springs. She is employed at The Waffle House, babysits neighborhood children, enjoys going to concerts (Drake, Zack Bryan), and visits the elderly at the Canonsburg Senior Citizens Center. Caelin plans to continue her education at CCAC to become an Ultrasound Technician.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Marco and Crystal Caccamo attended the meeting and commented on the contents of proposed policy 903, Public Comment in Joint Operating Committee Meetings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Bowman, to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2024 meeting. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer's Report I Ratification and Payment of Bills

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Frye, to accept the Treasurer's Report with ratification and payment of bills as presented. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

PERSONNEL

CDL Program

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Frye, to accept the resignation of CDL instructor Edward Szygenda effective March 1, 2024. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Motion by Mrs. Sparks-Gatling, second by Mr. Mele, to employ Robert Shea as a full-time CDL instructor to be paid \$30 per hour with benefits retroactive to March 4, 2024. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

POLICY UPDATES

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Sparks-Gatling, to approve policy 903 (Public Comment in Joint Operating Committee Meetings) as presented. Mrs. Frye then made a motion to table this item until the next meeting, to which there was not a second. On a voice vote, the original motion to approve policy 903 was passed by a vote of 5 ayes and one nay (Mrs. Frye).

ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Frye, to approve the articulation agreements with University of Northwestern Ohio to benefit students in the Automotive Mechanics and HVAC programs. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The proposed 2024-2027 Comprehensive Plan was submitted for review. It will be posted on the school website for 30 days. Action for approval will be requested at the April meeting.

REPORTS

- John Hosa, Esq., discussed Lindke v. Freed, No. 22-611, 2024 U.S. LEXIS 1214 (Mar. 15, 2024), a case arising from a public official's act of deleting comments and blocking profiles from his Facebook page. School officials are urged to keep their personal posts and matters within clearly designated personal social media accounts. Failing to separate personal and professional life on social media may expose school officials to greater liability.
- Mr. Purtell discussed school initiatives.
- Mr. Milanovich reported on shop growth/expansion; grant opportunities; instructor update; capital projects; Practical Nursing and CDL programs; progress on the adult education building, and school priorities list.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Mele, second Mrs. Frye, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steffie Smith, Board Secretary