

Meeting Agenda

February 24, 2015

6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

Attendees:

Monique Turner – H & M

Ben Johnson – Drive Program

Kim Weaver – Compass Programs

Juan Flowers – JC Smith University

Terra Kennedy - Principal

Jessica Weaver - Student

Paula Brown – Academy Coordinator

The meeting started with a welcome and introduction from all attendees. The focus of the meeting was to discuss Advisory Board bylaws and to locate businesses and individuals willing to invest their time to assist the students in becoming college & career ready. Ms. Brown spoke of finding business professionals from the community to speak with the students in the three different academies. She mentioned the difficulty of locating medical professionals to come to the school to share information with the students. Ms. Weaver suggested contacting Charlotte AHEC for the medical speakers and 3D Engineers located in Rock Hill for engineering.

Ms. Kennedy clarified the goal of improving the employability skills of all the students. This involves creating a way to engage all the students. How can we engage the students. Mock Interviews were suggested.

Ms. Weaver discussed a program - College Summer Prep Jump Start. The program focuses on steps necessary to prepare for college: college applications, leadership development, decision making, capitalizing on personal brands. The needs for the program were a location, students and funding.

Mr. Johnson discussed hosting several technology based summer camps. The camp curriculum would include coding, programming, business planning, marketing and entrepreneurial skills. His organization is locating sponsors to help fund the camps. The camps would operate Monday - Friday during the summer from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

There is a possibility of Extended Day Programs operating during the summer to assist in bridging the academic gaps for students. Ms. Kennedy explained that freshman entering the school during the 2015-2016 year would not select an academy until the latter part of their second semester. The students are required to take two science classes and two math classes their freshman year. Principles of Business & Finance will be offered as an elective. AVID was discussed as a good choice to help prepare the students to be successful in high school.

Freshman need to be aware of the different academy cultural activities to receive the Phillip O. Berry experience. This could include joining clubs such as Robotics, HOSA, AISA & FBLA. Ms. Weaver discussed a Weekly Forum where guest speakers visited the schools. Mr. Flowers emphasized the importance of soft skills and how image is important. Ms. Turner explained how she worked with young students to help them improve their image using a limited budget & their clothes to create a fashion show with A Child's Place. Ms. Turner is assisting the Fashion Club with their 20 March Fashion Show.

Suggestions were offered as to when the Advisory Board could meet. It was mentioned that it could be by phone conference, Skype or later times such as 7:00 p.m. Information will be sent to members regarding the next meeting time which should occur within the next two weeks. All attendees were asked if they were committed to invest their experiences and times with the Advisory Board until August. At that time, we could revisit their participation and all said yes.