



**Sweeny Independent School District**  
Career and Technology Advisory Council  
Minutes – October 10, 2012

**Members Present**

**Teachers:**

Paula Brooks  
Kelly Bertch  
Windy Byrd  
Mark Manley  
Rayetta Martin  
Kim Robbins

**Administration:**

Randy Miksch  
Dr. Donna Thompson  
Brian Brooks  
Les Kluttz

Michael Saul  
Vickie Finch

**Students:**

Jake Crouch  
Montana Gilliam  
Alexander Greco  
Mackenzie Green  
Leslie Kluttz  
Ben Loftus  
Winda Miller  
Shelby Moody  
Maggie Nance

Jazmyne Nuells  
Alyssa Schuelke  
Claire Wilson  
Nichoel Wood  
Thomas Ybarra

**Special Guests:**

Ron and Kathleen Manley, Dow Chemical  
Melissa Karst, Sweeny Hospital  
Sherri Pierce, RN – Sweeny Hospital  
Claudia Garza – Community Representative

**The Chairperson's Message**

Mark Manley started the meeting at 4:07 pm and welcomed our special guests from the community.

**Old Business**

Windy Byrd read the minutes from the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Ms. Kim Robbins motioned and Mr. Ronnie Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> the approval of minutes.

There was no other old business to conduct.

**Program**

FFA/Ag Mech/Food Tech/Wildlife – Mr. Wilson's students Claire Wilson and Maggie Nance discussed Area Leadership Camp for officers. They also discussed District FFA, FFA convention in Corpus Christi. Sweeny students won 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the speech contest at Brazoria County Fair.

Floral Design – Mrs. Milberger's floral design students are working hard this this year. Mrs. Milberger reported that she has 7 sections of Floral Design and they created Homecoming mums and a color wheel project. She shared that students will receive an Art credit for her class.

Audio Visual – Ms. Kelly Bertsch reported that they are in all stages of production. Students are completing public service announcements and they are available on the web. Everything in her class is completed by students.

Health Science - Mrs. Kim Robbins reported that she has a strong program this year. She has 30 students enrolled in her clinical courses

Business Information Management - Mrs. Martin shared that she is looking forward to her business programs. Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Brooks will both be teaching BIM II and are looking forward to increasing their numbers for competition.

Engineering – Mr. Manley reported about his robotics program with Chevron. He shared about a design of controls that are identical to the controls of video games so that the new generation of kids would better be able to control equipment with their firsthand knowledge of video games. He shared that he is mimicking this for his program due to the ease of use by students.

Guest speakers, Sherri Pierce, RN – Sweeny Community Hospital and Melissa Kardst. Mrs. Pierce shared that she is the current Director of Nurses at Sweeny Community Hospital. She is a 17 year veteran in nursing and has served Sweeny Community Hospital for 5 years. She shared the importance of healthcare. She shared the concern of increasing population in the future with the expectation that in 2020 there will be a 1 million nurse shortage in the US. She shared that they are not a training hospital but Sweeny HS program students can witness different departments of the hospital. Sweeny HS program is exposing students to all areas of healthcare and she is confident of their abilities they learn coming from this program.

Guest speakers, Ron and Kathleen Manley – Dow – Mr. Ron Manley shared that due to the changing HR environment, students need to be more self-driven to reach their goals. Engineering is a diverse degree for this area. There are a number of jobs available that are not being filled from the local community which requires Dow and other employers to seek out qualified employees from other countries. Mr. Manley stressed that it is very important to be a good learner and problem solver. Mrs. Kathleen Manley shared that students must be willing to try. She said, "Some of the best things I've done came from trying and failing." She also suggested for students to find someone who is working in the career field you are interested in and shadow them.

### **New Business**

Mr. Manley shared the CATE Advisory Council purpose. He shared that it is important that we operate this committee by the by-laws and that we need to obtain the current by-laws or come up with them by the next meeting. He stated that over the year, we have had a teacher running the committee and that he is not certain that is how it is intended to be. He suggested that we review our requirements with those of the college to make sure what we offer align with Brazosport and industry.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Brian Brooks motioned to adjourn and Ms. Finch seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Windy Byrd