

**TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT, SOUTH CAROLINA
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Monday, October 1, 2018
Municipal Complex, Committee Meeting Room, 3rd Floor
100 Ann Edwards Lane, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Guang Ming Whitley, Chair, Kevin Cunnane and Tom O'Rourke

STAFF PRESENT: Eric DeMoura, Town Administrator

ALSO PRESENT: KJ Kearney, Charleston County School District, Career and Technology Education; Chad Vale, Work-based Learning Partnerships Coordinator, CTE

Ms. Whitley called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from the [July 30, 2018](#) meeting

Mr. O'Rourke moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Cunnane. All present voted in favor.

2. Public Comments

Brenda Corley, 568 Woodspring Road, stated that she is the Principal at Oceanside Collegiate Academy. She wanted to thank the Town for their collaboration and partnership with Oceanside and hopes to continue this in the future.

3. Presentation by Career & Technology Education program at Charleston County School District

KJ Kearney, Charleston County School District (CCSD), Career & Technology Education Support Team (CTE).



WELCOME TO CTE!

A brief introduction of Charleston County School District's
Career & Technology Education Support Team.

STUDENTS ARE
THE HEART

OF OUR WORK!

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Mr. Kearney stated that he would like to build relationships with the Town. He stated that he is the Career Specialist for the East Cooper Region and has been working for CCSD for approximately four years. He stated that he also did consulting for the International African American Museum that will be constructed in downtown Charleston.

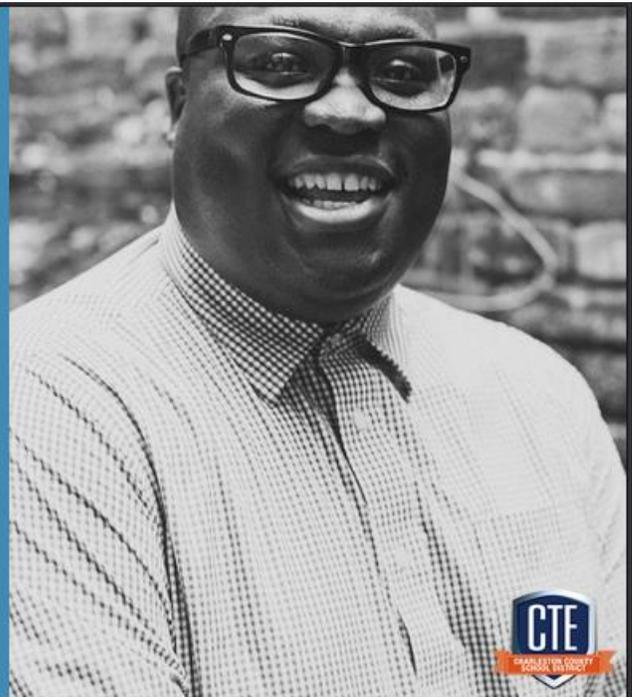
KJ KEARNEY

Career Specialist for East
Cooper Region

Formerly a Teacher's Assistant
at Daniel Jenkins Academy

Educated by Charleston
County Public Schools

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Mr. Kearney stated that CTE is a support team and the Executive Director is Rich Gordon, who was previously the principal at James Island High School. He stated that Chad Vale, who is also present this morning, is also shown (far left).

WHO WE ARE

The CTE Support Team is lead by Executive Director, Rich Gordon (far right). There are 10 Career Specialist working all over Charleston County School District with a mission to support students.

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CTE
Career and Technology Education Support Team Office

Charleston County School District

He stated that there are ten career specialists. He indicated that they break up Charleston County School Districts into different zones, and his zone is Mount Pleasant where he works with all the schools in Mount Pleasant. Due to the number of schools, they will be adding an additional Career Specialist to the East Cooper Region. He stated that they help with career exploration. He said they want to prepare their students to be “future ready” which could mean an internship or an apprenticeship. He said it is broken into sixteen career clusters. He said those sixteen career clusters have been identified by the State as high opportunities for the students to either become entrepreneurs in those areas or work and have a long and lasting career. He stated that students in this program have a 90% graduation rate compared to an average national graduation rate of 74.9%. He stated that the career clusters could be pre-engineering, medical and even have a nail technician program.

WHAT WE DO

CCSD Career & Technology Education programs empower students with 21st Century Skills for optimal college and career readiness. State recognized CTE programs are offered in every high school and grouped into 16 clusters based on a common set of knowledge and skills.



He said students who enroll in their programs graduate at a 90% rate. He said they would like to ensure that students are future ready to be able to take advantage of the opportunities, whether to own their own business, attend college, or go into the workforce.

IN SHORT

We create both Career Exploration and higher educational opportunities for our students in an effort to make them **FUTURE READY!**



IN-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

We invite professionals and community leaders to come to our schools. Examples include initiatives like CAREER CAFES where professionals come to have lunch with a curated group of students interested in their field.

Individual schools may have their own initiatives that we can support. Examples include the Laing Leaders program at Laing Middle School.

We've even had NASA astronauts visit schools in the district to explain their jobs as well.

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HOW TO SPEAK TO STUDENTS!

10 minutes

1. **10** minutes is a great amount of time to speak to students. It's long enough to share your story and answer questions, but short enough to keep their attention.

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SPEAKING STEM AT LAING:

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He stated that this is what they do from an outward perspective; In-School Opportunities. He said that NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) recently came to the Charleston area. He said NASA is attempting to send someone to Mars. He stated that Charleston has a large number of government contractors, as well as a high intellect in the area. He said NASA chose Charleston as one of their destination sites to work with the people in our business communities and to let students know that working for NASA is a real possibility. He said their department along with Charleston County School District, under Mr. Chad Vale's leadership, helped create a STEM fair for students to see the different career opportunities that are available, not just for working directly for NASA, but for companies that may subcontract with NASA for other missions they may have. He said in the picture shown, this is an actual NASA astronaut going to a school to explain his career. He said when discussing career explorations, this is bringing people from the community to the schools. He stated that he designed the two rack cards shown on the top of the slide; one for Laing Middle School and the other for Mount Pleasant Academy, so that when people in the community wish to speak to students, this is a template of what they can expect when they go to the schools. He said many people in the community

want to speak to students, but do not know how; therefore, CTE provides support in all areas.

INTERNSHIPS

We partner with a host of businesses to provide internship opportunities for our students. From global, multinational corporations like Boeing to regional companies like Publix and even local businesses like the Little Dog Agency.

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BOEING

HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE WITH BOEING SOUTH CAROLINA!

CCSD partners with 4th Block upon Fall Semester & Independent Transportation

This Internship Offers High School Credit & Hourly Compensation

INTERNSHIP TERM
Oct. 8 – Jan. 18, 2018
Monday – Friday
1:30pm – 5:30pm

HOW TO APPLY
Complete the Student Internship Participation Steps on the CCSD CTE Student Webpage
charlestoncountyschools.org/cte
at least 10 days before

Application Deadline:
Sept. 14, 2018

Interviews at Boeing SC:
Sept. 14, 2018 from 9-3pm

Charleston County School District is proud to partner with Boeing South Carolina to offer Fall 2018 semester internships for high school seniors interested in learning about the airplane manufacturing industry. Boeing South Carolina is one of the top 100 employers in the world that manufactures the state-of-the-art 737 MAX aircraft.

Students will have opportunity to support mixed customer seating & cabinization efforts inside the Boeing South Carolina factory and gain insight into the Boeing Production Control System! **Students placed in this internship must be available Monday 1:30-5:30pm.**

Students interested in applying for this Work-based Learning opportunity to earn high school credit while getting paid should speak with their teacher, school counselor, and parents before applying.

CTE Questions: Chad Vail, WBL Partnerships Coordinator
chad.vail@charlestoncountyschools.org | 843.657.8400

Mr. Kearney stated that internships are very important, and Boeing is a huge employer in the area. He said that they have a direct relationship with Boeing providing internships. He said they recently finished a round of interviews and those students have been selected. He said there were some from Wando High School that will also receive this internship. He said those that did not receive the internship, CTE still works with them. He said one student was very interested in Freeman Boatworks and he has potentially secured an internship for that student. He stated that they do not wish to let students go simply because they did not receive an internship for their first choice. He said there are still second and third opportunities available, and CTE will support them with those opportunities.

FIELD TRIPS/CAREER FIELDS

We also like to take our students out to businesses so that they can see the inner-workings of organizations.

Recent examples include tours of MUSC's new children's hospital construction site, a guided tour of UPS with their Operations Manager, and even Mt. Pleasant City Hall.

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OCTOBER 9th
9am - 3pm

North Charleston Convention Center

Presented by:
Charleston Regional Business Journal



RESERVE YOUR EXHIBIT SPACE TODAY!

The career fair will include:

- Careers in STEM from the Lowcountry region
- Robotics demonstration
- Great food and coffee in the Teachers' and Exhibitors' Lounge

STEM EMPLOYERS EXHIBIT AT NO COST!
Space Reservation Deadline: September 24, 2018

Set-Up Day:
October 8, 2018 | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Register online today:
<http://tinyurl.com/2017chsfair>

For more information, contact Kim McManus:
kmcmanus@chsd2121.com or (803) 843-3118

No cost exhibit space made possible by:






He stated that they have field trips and career field trips. He said on October 9th, there will be approximately 1,500 high school juniors and seniors at the North Charleston Convention Center who will be looking at STEM opportunities. He said there will be a number of employers from the tri-county area in manufacturing, construction, and several others who will be there to show the students career opportunities within their individual organizations. He said it is keeping these careers at the forefront so that when students are in class, they see the connection of how this will lead to a career. He said if they make the decision to attend college, they will know or have a better idea of what education opportunities they need to be pursuing so if they are interested in one of the companies they saw in their junior or senior year in high school, they will know what it takes to get in a position to work for that company. He stated that Councilwoman Whitley introduced him to Town Administrator, Eric DeMoura, and he will be touring Town Hall. He said that Wando High School has student council, as well as middle schools; therefore, politics is also a career opportunity. He said operationally, there are other career opportunities with the Town, such as Public Services, Law Enforcement, Fire Department and other areas. He said

there are real career opportunities with municipal governments, and CTE would like for their student government leaders to see this.

Mr. O'Rourke asked if CTE is part of CCSD and is it funded separately.

Mr. Kearney stated that they are a part of CCSD; however, they are funded separately through Perkins, which is a federal allotment of funding. He said they operate as an independent agency within the greater umbrella of CCSD, which gives them more autonomy. He said this partnership has been very fruitful for the students, teachers and guidance counselors.

Ms. Whitley thanked Mr. Kearney for his presentation and looks forward to seeing what comes forth from doing tours at Town Hall with the student leaders. She is hopeful that some of her fellow council members will be present to speak to the students and provide them with an overview of what they do as Council members.

4. Adjourn

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Ashe

October 1, 2018