

## Workforce & Ed Committee Meeting Notes

Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*Attending: Lisa Harrington, Laura Boudreau, Jim Trimarchi, Bill Colvin, Wendy Callaert, Chris Callahan, Kristen Kimball, Tim Payne, Nancy Shuttleworth, Lisa Holderness, Wendy Morse*

- STEAM Coordinator: Lisa Holderness introduced herself and provided information on her role and interests in collaboration with Workforce & Ed and the community as a whole.
- SVSU UPDATE - Laura provided an update on the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Grant and included the timeline.
  - Small Committee that is working on the grant application
  - Due 2/2/24, awards announced 4/19/24. Funding starts 7/1/24, 5 year grant that tapers years 4 & 5.
  - Thinking optimistically, would be great if we could have a Bennington Banner pc. that showcases the award as well as ties into April Career month.
- Sophomore Career Summit – Lisa, Wendy M. and Kristen provided information on the re-design of the Sophomore summit and announced the date of 1/31/24.
  - Wendy Callaert volunteered Youth Transition Counselors to help with activities
  - Lisa Holderness also volunteered to help.
  - Laura Boudreau provided information on grant money that can support the event, particularly around the reflection element.
    - \$1000 towards materials
    - \$ 1500 towards contractors
    - \$2000 towards transportation
  - Bill Colvin also provided information on grant money that can also provide support that includes food. We were asked to think creatively about how to utilize funding support.
  
- Financial Reality Fair - Wendy M provided information on the event and announced the date as 1/17/24. Laura provided great information on her reflection from the last event and had shared a story of a parent that was thrilled with the conversation they had with their student who attended.
  - Andrea Hogan would like to help with the FR fair.
  
- April Career Month – The group provided a recap on events that happened in the past during April Career Month.
  - Laura & Lisa Holderness will work with the Media Specialists at the elementary schools and will try to pull together a virtual meeting with them by the end of the year. Wendy

M, Jeannie J, and Bill C will be invited to the meeting to help explore activities that support elementary student populations.

- Even though the Sophomore Career Summit and Financial Reality fair are not happening in April, it was suggested that the Banner write a great recap pc. and even include information from the student perspective that can be featured in April as part of Career Month.
- Bill Colvin provided a recap on the events done in the past that supports the adult sector of our labor force and will continue to support similar events during April Career Month. There was an idea presented around offering an “Industry Sector Open House Day” that highlights key employers in Bennington county and gives the group an opportunity to focus marketing around a single event as opposed to several which is more of a challenge.

Meeting ended at 9:30.