



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Youth Committee

Thursday, November 2, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.

GoToMeeting: <https://www.gotomeet.me/MaricopaCountyWDB>

Phone: +1 (872) 240-3212; Access Code/Meeting ID: 167-097-701

---

**Members Present:** Joe Veres, Barbara Coakley, Brittany Holmes, Kathryn “Che” Collins, Jason Walker, Jessica Rivera-Garcia, Liz Valdez, Marie Raymond, Meredith Critchfield, Nancy Stanford, Tina Drews, and Tony Finn  
**(Note: All members present attended via GoTo meeting)**

**Members Absent:** Jessica Putton

---

MEETING

**Call to Order.**

Chairman Joe Veres, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., and requested roll call.

**Roll Call.**

MCWDB Board Liaison, Deseret Romero took roll. A quorum was present.

**Welcome and Opening Remarks.**

Chairman Veres welcomed everyone to the Youth Committee meeting.

**Consent Agenda.**

Meeting Minutes: September 14, 2023

**MOTION:**

Chairman Veres asked for a motion to approve the MCWDB Youth Committee’s consent agenda as presented. Jason Walker made a motion; Kathryn “Che” Collins seconded the motion.

Chairman Veres called for an all-in favor vote:

**In Favor:** Joe Veres, Barbara Coakley, Brittany Holmes, Kathryn “Che” Collins, Jason Walker, Liz Valdez, Marie Raymond, Meredith Critchfield, Tina Drews, and Tony Finn

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion passed.

**Chairman Report.**

Chairman Veres shared a recent visit and collaboration with the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) looking at several career pathways, such as electricians. The discussions led to a meeting with White House leadership, City of Phoenix, and others to discuss opportunities to get in front of youth on, how to market to the youth and parents informing them of the career pathways.

## Youth Impact Statements.

### MCWDB Youth Success Story

Workforce Development Division Youth Career Advisor Nancy Dang shared with the Committee the provided MCWDB Youth Success Story.

## Informational/Discussion/Possible Action.

### Youth Committee Goals and Action Item Summary

Chairman Veres provided a review of the FY24 Youth Committee Goals discussed at the September 14, 2023 meeting by the Committee. Below are the read goals.

1. Explore and develop new ways to connect youth to careers.
2. Investigate the creation of youth apprenticeships for out-of-school youth.
3. Continue to explore new ways of educating the major stakeholders, decision-makers, and policymakers in the in-demand career opportunities.
4. Research innovative methods of connecting the business community to our youth (16-24).

The Committee shared the importance of the goals and linking youth to all youth providers to ensure that everyone is connected.

### **MOTION:**

Chairman Veres asked for a motion to approve the Youth Committee Goals as presented. Kathryn "Che" Collins made a motion; Tina Drews seconded the motion.

Chairman Veres called for an all-in favor vote:

**In Favor:** Joe Veres, Barbara Coakley, Brittany Holmes, Kathryn "Che" Collins, Jason Walker, Jessica Rivera-Garcia, Liz Valdez, Marie Raymond, Meredith Critchfield, Nancy Stanford, Tina Drews, and Tony Finn

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion passed.

## Informational/Discussion Only.

### FY24 CTE Courses in the Valley

MCWDB Management Analyst Julia Maciel provided a presentation on the FY24 CTE Courses in the Valley. Below are the highlights of Ms. Maciel's presentation.

- What is Career Technical Education (CTE)?
- CTE in Arizona
- Valley School Districts and their CTE Courses
  - Mesa Unified School District
  - Chandler Unified School District
  - Peoria Unified School District
  - Deer Valley Unified School District
  - Gilbert Public Schools
- Apprenticeship vs College Comparison

Chairman Veres thanked Ms. Maciel for her presentation and opened the floor for the Committee comments and questions. The following comments/questions were discussed.

Question/Comments	Response
Possibility to connect the Youth Committee and State CTE Commission for collaboration.	Multiple Members supported this idea.
State CTE Commission hosting July state-wide meeting, possibility to involve Youth Committee. MCWDB Member Tina Drews offered to connect the Youth Committee to the State Commission.	Multiple Members supported this idea.
Liked the idea of connecting with the state to identify the “bigger picture” conversations on ways to connect youth to career pathways opportunities.	
TSMC and LUX is also looking to create an apprenticeship model.	
Good idea to attend the Youth Apprenticeship Conference in New York in the future.	
Important to build school partnerships.	

ElevateEdAZ Presentation

ElevateEdAZ, Director of Business Partnerships Mitch Horlick to provide a presentation on their partnerships in connecting youth to career pathways. Below are the highlights from this presentation.

- ElevateEdAZ
  - Career Awareness & Development
  - Strong Focus on Continuing Education
  - High School Internships and Job Shadows
  - Fast Track to Employment Opportunities
- Districts where we are impacting students
  - ASU Preparatory Academy
  - Deer Valley Unified School District
  - Peoria Unified School District
  - Paradise Valley Unified School District
  - Phoenix (PXU) Union
  - Mesa Public Schools
- Business Partners
- In-Demand Industries Exposure to Students
- Business Engagement

Chairman Veres thanked Mr. Horlick for his presentation and opened the floor for Committee comments and questions. The following comments/questions were discussed.

Questions/Comments	Response
	Provide assistance with internships. Most are paid and recently received funding for those who are not paid interns.
Is your main focus high school students?	Yes.
Is there a focus on youth apprenticeships?	Program does not include youth apprenticeships, however, they do connect youth to post-high school opportunities.

Maricopa County Community College District Associate Dean of Instruction and Community Development Kelly Stewart to provide a presentation on Maricopa County Community Colleges efforts in bridging the gap between youth and employment. Below are the highlights from Ms. Stewart's presentation.

- [Adult Education System](#)
- [Rio Salado College Adult Education](#)
- [FY23 RSC Adult Education](#)
- [Adult Education Enrollment](#)
- [IET Program Components](#)
- [Career Training Path and Opportunities](#)
- [IET Success Stories](#)
- [RSC Youth Reengagement Centers](#)

Chairman Veres thanked Ms. Stewart for her presentation. opened the floor for Committee comments and questions. No questions were heard.

#### MCWDB Committee Member Forum: Expanding Youth to Career Opportunities

Member Nancy Stanford shared the Marriott's experience and success with apprenticeship opportunities.

#### Call to the Public.

Chair Veres made a call to the public for comments. No one spoke.

#### Adjourn.

Chair Veres adjourned the MCWDB Youth Committee meeting at 2:49 pm.

*\*For additional information, contact MCWDB staff at: [MCWDB@maricopa.gov](mailto:MCWDB@maricopa.gov)*