



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

Thursday, March 9, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.

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

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

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**Members Present:** Joe Veres, Brittany Holmes, Darcy Renfro, Jason Walker, Jessica Putton, Meredith Critchfield, Nancy Stanford, and Sherie Steele  
(Note: All members present attended via GoTo meeting)

**Members Absent:** Tina Drews

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MEETING

**Call to Order.**

Chairman Joe Veres, called the meeting to order at 1:31 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 and introduced the following new members:

- Jessica Putton, WestMec
- Nancy Stanford, Marriott Hotels

**Consent Agenda.**

Meeting Minutes: October 27, 2022

Chairman Veres asked for a motion to approve the MCWDB Youth Committee’s consent agenda as presented. Brittany Holmes a motion; Jason Walker seconded the motion.

Chairman Veres called for an all-in favor vote:

**In Favor:** Joe Veres, Brittany Holmes, Jason Walker, Jessica Putton, Meredith Critchfield, and Sherie Steele

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion passed.

**Chairman Report.**

Chair Veres provided a brief overview of the MCWDB Youth Committee’s role and the importance of identifying opportunities for the youth in our community, including training, employment, and understanding how to succeed in the workforce. It is also additionally, important for the Committee to raise awareness among our youth on the new and evolving career opportunities in the valley, including organized events and workshops.

**Informational/Discussion Only.**

Maricopa County Community College District Quick Start Program Presentation

Maricopa County Community College District Workforce Executive Director Leah Palmer provided a presentation on the Maricopa County Community College District Quick Start Program. Below are the highlights to Ms. Palmer’s presentation.

- Partnerships
- Manufacturing Industries
  - Job Posting Data
- Arizona Advanced Technology Network (AATN)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Program in Arizona
  - Partnership with State and 4 other community colleges
- Arizona Industrial Technology Program (AIT)
  - Certification I
  - Certification II
  - Associates of Applied Science
  - AIT Quick/Start Bootcamp
- Meeting Current/Future Demands
- Quick Start Partnership Design
- Enrollment Marketing/Data
- Impact
  - Waiting List: 2600
  - Currently Served: 500 (600 by end of June)
- Virtual Reality Recruitment
- Strategic Partnership Model

Chair Veres thanked Ms. Palmer for her presentation and the Committee followed up with the following questions.

Question	Response
Aside from the pre-test are there any other enrollment requirements?	Applicants are prepared for what to expect and general enrollment action items that need to be completed.
What is the feedback from employers, with being able to hire graduates immediately?	MCCCD engages with 18 industry advisors and host hiring events. Upcoming Chandler hiring event with 150 Graduates with industry engagement panel.
Do you recruit at the high school level?	Developing a long-term plan, while 17-year-olds can take the course, there is an 18-year-old requirement for the positions. Outreach is necessary at the high school level.

Career-Guided Opportunities to Connect with Youth

MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark provided a brief emphasis on the importance of building career pathways for youth and introduced Workforce Development Division, Program Manager Jinkee Pacifico prepared a presentation on the Career Guided Opportunities to Connect with Youth. Below are the highlights of Ms. Pacifico’s presentation.

- Outreach Efforts
  - High School/Word of Mouth
  - Non-Profit Organizations/Title Partners
- Opportunities Available
- Apprenticeships
  - Work Experience

- Skills Training
- Labor Market Information
- Integration with Human Services

Chair Veres thanked Ms. Pacifico for her presentation and Committee followed up with the following questions and comments.

Question/Comments	Response
Commend Workforce Development Division for their work. Schools provide information related to higher education opportunities, however there is a need to provide some students with career-ready and apprenticeship information. In addition to financial literacy information.	
Banner would like to partner with Workforce Development Division.	Thank you.
Does the Workforce Development Division offer similar planning processes as GCU and MCCC?	Workforce Development Division offers assistance with short-term and long-term career planning goals. Along with occupational skills pathways.
Definitely, a need to educate the youth on manufacturing job opportunities. Technology has evolved and is no longer the historical perception.	
GCU would also like to partner and assist.	Thank you.
MCCC would also like to partner and assist.	Thank you.

**Call to the Public.**

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

**Adjourn.**

Chairman Veres adjourned the MCWDB Youth Committee meeting at 2:56 pm.

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