

## Future's Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 – 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

**Members Present:** Scott McBride, PSU DuBois (board member), Jill Martin-Rend, BC3 at Brockway, Matt LaVerde, Riverview Intermediate Unit 6, Bob Wicker, Potter County Education Council, Amy Goode, Community Education Council for Elk and Cameron Counties

**Staff Present:** Pam Streich, Colleen Prectl, Aaron Herzing and Jocelyn Bash

**Topics Discussed** – Review of Committee Purpose, Grant Activity Update – new and current, Business and Education Partnership Activities, Marketing the North Central Region Initiative, Workforce gap discussion.

### **Meeting Summary:**

**Committee Purpose:** To explore opportunities that will assist the board in accomplishing its goals for the future; including grant opportunities; To ensure that Industry/Sector Partnerships, Business and Education Connect activities (regional) and other ideas as identified by the board are meeting the goals and objectives of the board; and to provide quarterly reports on each activity to the board at each of the quarterly meetings and upon request of the board.

**Grant Activity:** Pam provided an update on recent grant activity – A \$1.3 million dollar grant application was submitted to USDOL in response to the Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC) grant, if funding the funding will be utilized to reimburse employers for wages paid to interns, dislocated workers and career and technical education students.; current grant updates: The PA SLIP program has served 74 employers from a variety of industries throughout the region and provided 137 interns with valuable work experiences and exposure to the great opportunities in our region; Business Education Partnership (BEP) activities continue throughout the region with awards made to the CEC and the PCEC for to assist in funding their initiatives; Our Career Counselors for Jefferson and Clearfield Counties continue to develop virtual programs for schools; \$217,600 was requested and awarded for the Economic Transition grant which provide training funding and supportive Services for Dislocated Workers; Teacher in the Workplace programs will continue through December 2020 in collaboration with IU6, the PA Rural Robotics Initiative and a program being developed by Workforce Solutions Career Counselors; Next Gen Sector Partnership work continues for partnerships in the following industry sectors: Manufacturing, Healthcare and Social Assistance and Building and Construction. The What's So Cool About Manufacturing Video Contest will not be held this year – we are collaborating with the Northwest Industrial Resource Center (NWIRC) on the virtual Marvels of Manufacturing Program.

**New Business** – Discussion to identify workforce gaps will be discussed at the next meeting. As suggested by board member Scott McBride at a previous meeting these gaps could be in working with other industries and partners, occupations, business and industry connections- just about anything related to workforce.

**Next Meetings** - Tuesdays –December 8, 2020, March 9 and June 8 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm

**Action Items for the WDB:** There are no action items for the board.