**Prepare RI Career Coordinators’ Network**

**Meeting Minutes March 19, 2019**

**Call to Order:** The PrepareRI Career Coordinators Network Meeting was called to order by Paul Williams at the East Providence Career & technical Center, 1998 Pawtucket Avenue, East Providence, RI

**Attendees**: See Sign-In Sheets

**Agenda Discussion:**

* **(1) Welcome**- Catherine Rickert, EPCTC Career Coordinator
* **(2) RWU CTE Teacher Certification Program, CPAC and ACTE-** Lynne Bedard informed the group that the Roger Williams University CTE Teacher Training Program was approved and that an Open House will be held on March 27th at RWU, and that plans to create a Rhode Island chapter of CTE are moving forward.
* **(3) Building a Robust Work-Based Learning Activity Through a Collaboration with the RI Builders’ Association(RIBA)/RI Home & Garden Show**- Lou Cotoia, Secretary of RIBA and Cheryl Boyd, Director of Workforce Programs at RIBA, highlighted this year’s huge student participation with 300 industry partners and RIBA’s continuing goal to ‘build a pipeline’ and increase student opportunities each year. This year 26 schools were involved in the Home & Garden Show work-based learning experience, from set-up beginning on April 1st to break down on Monday April 8th. A variety of CTE programs participated, including Construction, Plant Science, Culinary Arts, Graphics, IT, Hospitality and Music. Students’ hours are tracked each day, including hours spent at their schools preparing for the Home Show. This student/industry partnership has occurred for the past 7 years in a 100,000 square foot space with a flawless safety record. Seven radio stations broadcast live, and media coverage focuses on students and teachers to show the value of their work at the Home & Garden Show. Lou stressed the importance of soft skills and that training and retaining employees in the construction filed is a ‘daunting task.’
* **(4) Skills for RI’s Future-** Nina Pande provided an update of the PrepareRI Summer Internship Program. She said that parent orientation is wrapping up, and the last parent orientation will be held at Davies on March 21st at 5:00 pm. If a student has a problem getting to this last event, a one-on-one can be scheduled. An updated list of students’ status will be emailed to schools. Students participating in the summer internship at Electric Boat (EB) will be making $14.14 an hour and 40 hours a week. Nina said that EB may be having a massive hiring in 2020-21 and that may result in a swell in internships. They may take up to 25 students this year, and Nina advised people to email names of interested students to Jenny Pichardo. EB follows and are bound by USDOL rules and they are looking for students with training in construction, welding, and maybe pre-engineering. For the summer internship EB will employ students for a full 8 weeks, and the first shift begins at 6:24 am. To assist with transportation concerns, RIPTA is increasing routes to Quonset and EB has a ride-share van program. Nina reported that at the next meeting there will be a list of 600 students (out of the 1200 who applied) who made it to the employer interview stage. Those students will receive a career enhancement packet that stresses skills sets. Denial letters have not been sent yet as a list of opportunities is being created for students whom are not chosen.
* **(5) Work-Based Learning Toolkit-** Michele Maktillacould not attend the meeting; the link for the toolkit is <https://www.prepare-ri.org/wbl-resources>
* (**6) Wrap Up-** Lynne reported that it was great to see so many Career Coordinators at the PrepareRI Summit, which provides increased visibility for the Career Coordinators’ Network.
* **(7) Adjournment-** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.
* **(8) Next Meeting-** April 23rd at the Regional Career & Technical Center at Coventry High School