

Industry Certification Workgroup Notes

July 9, 2014

Welcome/Intros

Quick round of intros and asked participants to pose questions/concerns they hoped to address at this meeting:

- Scott Fast – how do we connect to community college certificates and make the process reliable? Wendy is working with industry to get feedback on them
- Fred Franko – comparing w/ H1B visa lists. Who is providing the credential? Issue of for-profit or non-profit vendors?
- Chris Dewherst – issue of “list” quickly becoming outdated. How do we stay on top of this?
- Jay Seller & Mike Bautista – must be based in industry standards. Also could be used as an awareness tool for industry/employers of certifications that are out there that they could be utilizing, finding employees for.
- Mimi Leonard – how is this managed at the district level?

Also in attendance:

- Misti Ruthven (guest speaker)
- Michelle Liu
- Jennifer Jirous
- Tara Bell
- Wendy Nkomo

Grad Guidelines Overview – Misti

- Refresher on what asking group to do:
 - o Grad guidelines menu has verbiage that may not be practical for implementation
 - Menu & guidelines going back to state board based on workgroup feedback
 - o Menu options for districts – can choose how to utilize. E.g.:
 - full menu
 - pieces of menu
- help districts think through the questions and decision points
- could create a decision matrix in determining the industry and/or student value of a certification
- could be an implementation decision making matrix
- how do we evaluate and determine value of the certificate is key
 - o value to student
 - o value to the workforce
 - o intrinsic value
- List creation
 - o This is more about creating the process for decision making/evaluation of certifications that districts will go through

- How do we help them think through how this aligns with standards?
 - Don't need to crosswalk certifications with standards, but give tools for how to do this
- Michael: Matrix should include questions that need to be asked.
 - Work with sector partnerships, BOCES, rural council, etc.
- Jennifer: guide providing first steps – have you reached out to your BOCES? Sector partnerships, etc.?
- Chris: the process that we've gone through, these are the questions we want districts to address
- Jennifer: need to communicate that "list" is just a place to start and did not go through the depth of process that a district would need to go through
- Misti: would be helpful to go in depth with 2-3 in each content area as examples. need to be industry recognized.
- Scott: need to be industry recognized (in district or state?). used in industry hiring decisions. Understand what skills it does or does not teach.
- Fred: could there be a recommendation of how to keep it current – keeping industry involved in some levels.
- Jennifer: this work can raise the level of work to crosswalk CTE certifications w/ industry more intentionally.
- Fred: how does this tie into the state standards?
- Misti: good to take a few certificates and dive deep into doing the alignment with standards.
- Jennifer: there are some groups that are doing that alignment (PLTW)

Examples of existing certifications that may already have some process of alignment to standards:

- STEM: solid works
- Arts: tech theater, arts management
- Chris: looking at private sector groups that have done the process of alignment.
- Jennifer: research certifications that work is being done to align with CCSS
- Is DPS/Joe using a formalized process for industry validation?
- Process of AVS/Tech colleges?
- Jennifer: automotive certifications
- Michael: talking to for-profit colleges (Ridgestone as example) all students graduate with certifications
- Manufacturing is also a good area to work closely with

Deliverable components:

- Add:
 - Connection with CTE
 - Doing validation through CTE advisory boards?

- Standards alignment – process and tool
- In-depth examples
- Connection with other menu items
 - ICAP and capstone potentially
- Connection to regions and BOCES?
- Flowchart/visual to accompany the language
 - Needs to be more accessible
 - Make electronic so could click on sections of flowchart to hyperlink to different parts of the document

Deliverable Component Groups: (resources ID'd in each group)

- Definitions
 - LV & Michelle Liu
- CTE Connections
 - Mimi Leonard & Tara Bell
- Implementation
 - Scott Fast, Wendy Nkomo (?) & Mimi Leonard
- Standards alignment
 - Michael B. & Tara Bell
- Industry involvement
 - Jay Seller, Chris Dewhurst, Fred Franko, and Patrick Pratt
- Deep dive examples from lists
 - 2-3 sector areas ID at least 1 certification to do a deep dive in their list
- Checklist & Flowchart
 - TBD