



**Career and Technical Education  
Advisory Committee  
Minutes  
February 4, 2025**

The Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee meeting was held at The College and Career Academy at Pruden and virtually on February 4, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. Members in attendance included Karen Bazemore; John Cotton; Shawnda Funderburk; Tracey Hamilton; Angela Howell; Hermionne Johnson; Dr. Katelyn Leitner; Justin Nemeth; Alexandria Parker; Mona Parker; Judy Raymond; Dr. Andre' Skinner; Shalarria Skinner; Terry Smith; Dana Spruill; Susan Stubenrauch; Angela Turntine; Dr. Cynthia Tyler; and Kimberly Warholak. Guests in attendance included Rebecca Cilley, Erin Dears (Economic Development Department); Julia Hillegass (Economic Development Department); Jaden Knight (CCAP Welding Student) and Desyree Perkins (CCAP Nurse Aide Student).

**Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. Andre' Skinner called the meeting to order and welcomed each member and guest.

**Approval of the December Minutes**

The December minutes were approved as presented.

*CTE Coordinator's Report*  
*Dr. Andre' L. Skinner, Director*  
*Career and Technical Education & Adult Education*

**New Business:**

- **Advisory Chair**

Dr. Skinner announced that Mr. John Cotton was voted the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council Chair.

- **Virginia CTE Priorities for Education and Workforce Initiatives 2024-2025**

Dr. Skinner highlighted several of the state CTE priorities for education and workforce initiatives: CTE Teacher Shortage, Funding for Industry Credentials and Testing, Funding for Classroom and Lab Equipment, Technical Career Exploration and CTE Program Awareness in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and Funding for Work-Based Learning.

There is a nationwide teacher shortage, including CTE teachers. The state supports reducing barriers to teaching licensure and certifications for qualified, industry professionals with real world experience, increasing school divisions funding for industry credentials and testing, additional funding for CTE lab equipment and program growth, expanding elementary schools CTE awareness and opportunities for 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and expanding funding to hire work-based learning (WBL) coordinators.

- **Advisory Council Planning Document**

Dr. Skinner shared the Advisory Council Planning Google form link. He requested that the council members complete the form. The form will be used to identify possible work-based learning opportunities for students and also assist with knowing the latest equipment, credentials, endorsements, and ideas to increase Career and Technical Education enrollment.

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- **Student Events**

Dr. Skinner announced that the 16th Annual Professional Student Conference will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at the Hilton Garden Inn Suffolk Riverfront. The conference is designed to provide 9<sup>th</sup>-grade students with an opportunity to interact with career programs offered by Suffolk Public Schools at The College and Career Academy at Pruden. The event helps to connect core content areas with the Career and Technical Education programs.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Career Expo will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at the Hilton Garden Inn Suffolk Riverfront. The event welcomes all high school seniors who have completed a Career Technical Education course during their high school tenure. Seniors will engage in simulated and real interviews aimed at potential hiring opportunities.

**Meeting Dates 2024-2025 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Month Unless Otherwise Noted)**

- April 29, 2025 - Committee Meeting

Respectfully submitted,



Shalarria D. Skinner, CTE Assessment Assistant  
CTE Advisory Committee Secretary

sds