

Career Technical Education (CTE) Regional Advisory Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2017

Registration/Lunch – Registration and lunch began at 12:30 pm with industry partners, school administrators, school counselors and IVROP staff present. Mr. Juan Campos, Educational Services Coordinator, facilitated the event. Mr. Campos explained that the regional approach to this CTE advisory group allowed for the involvement of all stakeholder partners and the employer community to assist CTE programs in preparing youth for careers after high school and to respond to local workforce needs and demands.

Chairperson - Mr. Campos asked for the selection of a chairperson for the **Imperial Valley Regional Career Technical Education Regional Advisory Committee (CTEAC)**. Upon consensus, it was agreed that Ms. Maria Andrade would serve as chairperson for the group. Ms. Andrade called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.

Welcome – Mr. Edwin Oberfell provided a welcome. He discussed the three areas of focus for the Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP) as Career Technical Education, Family Development and Stabilization, and Employer Connections. He stated the areas of focus are driven by the population that is served by students, teachers, administrators, and employers. He emphasized the purpose of this venue is to engage and receive input from significant industry pathways in the Imperial Valley communities. These pathway groups will engage in critical discussion and feedback to strengthen, enhance and improve the pathways. Mr. Oberfell stated that CTE is an educational strategy for providing young people with academic, technical, and employability skills that can help students pursue postsecondary training, higher education and/or employment. CTE pathways are academically rigorous and integrated coursework with some articulations in place through Imperial Valley College. These CTE programs empower students with critical thinking skills, collaboration efforts, problem solving, innovation, team work, communication, and leadership development. Mr. Oberfell stated that the services are provided at the partner school districts: Brawley, Calexico, Calipatria, Central, Holtville, Imperial, and San Pasqual and the Imperial County Office of Education. As part of this advisory group, Mr. Oberfell recognized the contributions of the workforce development partners: Imperial County Workforce Development Office and the California Employment Development Department to continue the engagement of industry/employers and teachers to prepare students for careers and success after high school.

Regional Approach - Mr. Campos presented the current State and local CTE update:

- CTE involvement is a measure within California's College Career Indicator (CCI).
- Drive for more University of California "a-g" approved courses, community college articulations, and dual enrollment courses.
- CTE pathway development and refinement by industry sector, pathways with introductory, concentrator, and capstone/advanced courses.
- CTE pathway mapping alignment for CalPADS reporting system requirements.
- Promoting CTE pathways with students and parents.
- CDE guidelines and the components of the 11 Elements of a High Quality CTE Program.

Mr. Campos indicated that the ACT National Career Ready Certificate (NCRC) is administered to any high school student that is interested in obtaining the certification. Examinees must pass three exams: Applied Mathematics, Workplace Documents and Graphic Literacy in order to qualify for the certificate. Currently, IVROP is the leader with 858 NCRC awarded to Imperial County residents and 58 employers have recognized the NCRC in their business/organization. Imperial Valley employers can register to be a part of the "Work Ready Communities" at www.workreadycommunities.org/business/form.

Labor Market Data/Presentation – Ms. Ingrid Soto, California Employment Development Department (EDD) El Centro Office, provided a presentation and distributed data on the following topics:

- Access the EDD website: <http://edd.ca.gov> the California Employment Development Department site to obtain labor market statistics, unemployment data, job growth, job openings, wages, Occupational Guides, etc.
- Obtain Labor Market Information: available by customer, geography, industry, etc. <http://labormaketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>.
- Obtain El Centro Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) data - Ms. Soto indicated that the unemployment rate for Imperial County was 24.5 percent in August 2017, down from a revised 27.0 percent in July 2017, compared to California's 5.4 percent and 4.5 percent in the nation.
- Access the California Occupational Guides: <http://labormaketinfo.edd.ca.gov/occguides/> Ms. Soto explained the manner in which to access the guides by occupation, county, etc.
- Access CalJOBS – Ms. Soto reviewed the process for accessing the job announcements and how to register job searchers.
- Youth Employment Opportunity Program – Ms. Soto discussed a program available for youth ages 15 through 25 to assist them in achieving their educational and vocational goals. The program emphasizes education, assessment, and peer advising.

Breakout Session for Industry Meetings – Attendees convened into industry sector groups. Discussion notes for each group are included in the following pages. Groups assigned a facilitator, notetaker, and reporter. The purpose of the breakout session by industry is to obtain/provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the pathways, and provide an overview of labor market conditions. *Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time utilizing the check-in process at the school sites.*

Industry Group	Sector	Location	Facilitator	Notetaker
Group 1	Agriculture & Hospitality	IVROP - Lab 1	Juan Campos	Celeste Rodriguez
Group 2	Health/Medical	Eagles - Area A	Gabriel Aguirre	Jennifer Sutter
Group 3	Public Services	Eagles - Area B	Adrian Gonzales	Debbie Burquist
Group 4	Education & Interior/Fashion	IVROP - Interview Room	Maria Pantoja	Emmanuel Torales
Group 5	Arts & ICTechnology	IVROP - Meeting Room	Linda Valenzuela	Vivian Cuevas
Group 6	Building, Energy, Manufacturing & Transportation	Eagles - Area C	Lupe Garcia	Yessenia Gallardo

Agenda topics included:

Industry Trends: a) Local Job Opportunities, b) Current and Future Trends, Entry Level Wages, and Technology/Equipment Changes, c) CTE Facilities Grant (Hospitality Only), d) Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Students, e) Externships for Teachers,
Pathways: a) Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC "a-g" Designation, b) Industry Certifications

Closing Remarks – Mr. Campos concluded the meeting and asked members to provide feedback on the two surveys in their packet. Members were asked to specify how they would like to continue working with CTE and provide recommendations on how this event could be improved.

Membership Roster – Attendees:

Industry Representatives and Teachers:

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	Jerry Armstrong	Imperial Irrigation District
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	Todd Machado	Central Union High School District
Building & Construction Trades	William Green	Green Construction
Building & Construction Trades	Andrea Roark	Housing Authority of Imperial Valley
Building & Construction Trades	Sam Couchman	City of Brawley; 8 Minute Energy
Education, Child Development & Family Services	Magda Franco	United Families, Inc.
Education, Child Development & Family Services	Carmen Heredia	Imperial County Office of Education Child Development
Education, Child Development & Family Services	Sergio Serrano	Imperial County Office of Education Child Development
Fashion & Interior Design	Beatriz Hernandez	Urbano Interior Planning & Design
Fashion & Interior Design	Samantha Salas	Urbano Interior Planning & Design
Health Science & Medical Technology	Maria Andrade	Thomas Acierno, D.D.S. – <i>Regional CTEAC Chairperson</i>
Health Science & Medical Technology	Marcos Correa	Imperial Heights
Health Science & Medical Technology	Aide Munguia-Fulton	El Centro Regional Medical Center
Health Science & Medical Technology	Maria Munoz	Thomas Acierno, D.D.S.
Health Science & Medical Technology	Daniel Ortiz	Imperial Valley College
Health Science & Medical Technology-Teacher	Reyna Saldaña	Imperial High School and IVROP Teacher
Health Science & Medical Technology-Teacher	Roxine Zamora	Valley Academy and IVROP Teacher
Hospitality, Tourism, & Recreation	Elda Najeras	Sodexo
Hospitality, Tourism, & Recreation	Lynnelle Hite	Calexico High School Teacher
Information & Communications Technologies	Jim Eyer	El Centro Regional Medical Center
Information & Communications Technologies-Teacher	Emilio Davila	Central Union High School Teacher
Information & Communications Technologies-Teacher	Don Jeffers	Central Union and Southwest High Schools Teacher
Information & Communications Technologies-Teacher	Anita Jones	Brawley Union High School Teacher
Manufacturing & Product Development-Teacher	Frank Cervantes	Brawley Union High School Teacher
Public Services	Kenneth Phillips	CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Public Services	Michael Ramirez	CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Public Services-Teacher	Cory VanDriessche	Central Union High School Teacher & Legal Law Academy
Public Services-Teacher	Robert Smith	Central Union High School Teacher & Legal Law Academy
Labor Market & Employer Services Presenter	Ingrid Soto	CA Employment Development Department – Presenter

School Administrators and Counselors:

Joe Apodaca	Imperial High School Principal	Angie Ortiz	Calipatria USD Asst. Superintendent/HS Principal
Ramona Campos	Central Union High School District Counselor	Arnold Preciado	Central Union High School District Business
Cynthia Cardona	IC Office of Education Alternative Education	Mary Robledo	Central Union High School Counselor
Samantha Chimits	Holtville High School Counselor Intern	Jesse Sanchez	Brawley Union High School Principal
Martin Leyva	Calexico High School Assistant Principal	Susan Villon	Brawley Union High School Counselor
Ellen Okada	Holtville High School Counselor	Gabrielle Williams	Calexico High School Principal
Olga Ortega	Central Union High School Counselor		

IVROP Staff:

Gabriel Aguirre	Projects WORK/THRIVE/MRT Coordinator	Adrian Gonzales	Projects Exito, Connect & WIOA Manager
Debbie Burquist	CTE Career Specialist, Central Union High School	Edwin P. Obergfell	IVROP Superintendent
Fernando Calderon	Project RISE Developmental Assets	Maria Pantoja	Projects Nenes, Star & Workability Coordinator
Juan Campos	CTE Education Services Coordinator	Celeste Rodriguez	CTE-Learning Communities Development Specialist
Vivian Cuevas	CTE-Learning Communities Development Specialist	Jennifer Sutter	CTE CCPT Career Specialist
Yessenia Gallardo	CTE Career Specialist, Brawley Union High School	Emmanuel Torales	CTE Career Specialist, Southwest HS/ICOE Migrant
Lupe Garcia	CTE & Learning Communities Program Assistant	Linda Valenzuela	CTE-Learning Communities Project Specialist

Industry Group 1 – Agriculture & Natural Resources; Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation

The following individuals were present: Facilitator Juan Campos; Notetaker Celeste Rodriguez; Elda Najeras-Sodexo, Ingrid Soto-Employment Development Department, Jerry Armstrong-Imperial Irrigation District, Todd Machado-Central Union High School District, and Arnold Preciado-Central Union High School District.

Purpose - Mr. Campos welcomed everyone and explained the purpose of the meeting which is to provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the programs, and provide an overview of labor market conditions. Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time through the check-in process at the school sites.

Review Local Job Opportunities - Mr. Armstrong discussed how his program is obtaining more equipment, such as welding machines and computer animated machines that make stencils. Mr. Armstrong commented that Imperial High School is building a greenhouse and are teaching students about pesticides and herbicides. Mr. Machado discussed a trend he sees and wants to incorporate and that is low water usage and water safety. He has seen an increase in the demand for “backflow” training to keep potable and grey water separated. Mr. Campos agreed with the importance of low water usage due to the drought, and emerging technologies in Northern California as a result. Mr. Machado talked about getting students more involved in landscaping. He said there is an increase in using drought resistant plants and landscaping that does not use plants. He commented that he would like to get students involved, such as using a lawn mower, cutting trees, and trimming shrubs. Mr. Machado mentioned that this skill is important since employers are looking for people who know how to cut and trim properly.

Current and Future Trends in the Field including Entry-Level Wages, Technology/Equipment Changes - Ms. Najeras mentioned that the state has more food safety requirements and that staff members are trained regularly to keep up with these standards. Ms. Najeras commented that students in the culinary pathway learn the basics, but requirements for public health are strict in order to maintain food safety. She added that this skill is important for students to be able to apply what they learn in order to keep up with all the current state requirements. Mr. Campos asked Ms. Najeras if instructors need to have students more prepared in this pathway. Ms. Najeras commented that Southwest High School and Brawley Union High School offer a culinary pathway, but sees that students need to be prepared for the culinary industry in the areas of frequently changing requirements and health codes.

CTE Facilities Grant (Proposition 51) Construction/Modernization - Mr. Preciado provided members with an informational packet regarding the Culinary Facility Improvement Project. Mr. Preciado explained that this project is to improve the Southwest High School Culinary Arts facility. He also shared the importance of this project as it will contribute to meeting state standards and in hopes of providing growth for the culinary pathway. He mentioned that there are about 130 students currently in the culinary program, with many students on the waiting list. Mr. Preciado discussed the requirements of the plan, the layout of the culinary facility, and the floor plan of the project. He stated that the cost of this project would be 1.2 million dollars, with \$566,000 going towards new equipment. Mr. Preciado shared that the application for this grant is due November 29,

2017. The breakout session for Agriculture and Hospitality industry group reviewed the Proposition 51 grant details and approved the plan as required for the purpose of submitting the grant proposal. Mr. Campos informed Mr. Preciado that the information will be shared with the larger Regional CTE Advisory Committee.

Work-Based Learning Opportunities - Mr. Campos explained that work-based learning is a way for students to obtain hands-on knowledge of how industry works, provides exposure to duties of various professions of a business, help the student connect with the skills they are learning in class. Mr. Campos asked members what opportunities may be available for students in the areas of internships, guest speakers, work-site tours, and job shadowing. Mr. Machado suggested having students more involved with hands-on activities, such as pipe-fitting. Mr. Machado mentioned that his school received grants for trees, and students enjoyed digging and planting trees. He stated that he wants students to see that there are more opportunities out there when they get involved and get to know what type of work is performed in the industry. Mr. Campos agreed and mentioned that at the school sites, there are many opportunities to shadow teachers and school employees as well. Ms. Najeras showed members pictures of what students work on in agriculture and that she wants students to know that they can eat what they grow. Mr. Armstrong mentioned that he shows people how farmers use water and that these learning experiences can help students explore the different careers that they can pursue. Mr. Armstrong volunteered to communicate with his employer, Imperial Irrigation District, to help establish more work-based learning opportunities, such as tours.

Externships for Teachers – Mr. Campos suggested that there are plenty of opportunities for hands-on work-based learning opportunities for students in all career pathways, and recommended that businesses explore those internal opportunities where teachers and students alike can benefit from the experiences.

Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC “a-g” Designation – Mr. Campos explained that articulation is a credit-by-exam process for students to acquire college credit. In addition, he mentioned that dual enrollment is the same as being enrolled in a college course. The student’s high school class grade is transferred to their college transcript. Mr. Campos mentioned that “a-g” approved courses are approved by the University of California for admission: a=history/social science, b=English, c=Mathematics, d=Laboratory Science, e=language other than English; f=visual and performing arts, g=College preparatory elective. Mr. Campos shared and reviewed handouts with members on articulation, dual enrollment, and UC “a-g” approved courses.

Industry Certifications – Mr. Campos reviewed informational items and asked what other certifications are critical for employment. Mr. Machado explained the importance of Backflow Certification. He explained that there is always a need for a backflow device when something is being built. Mr. Machado mentioned that the city makes sure that everyone has good water to drink and use, with the use of backflow devices.

Involvement Survey - Mr. Campos reminded members to complete and to turn in the survey form.

Industry Group 2 – Health Science & Medical Technology

The following individuals were present: Facilitator Gabriel Aguirre; Notetaker Jennifer Sutter; Daniel Ortiz-Imperial Valley College, Aide Munguia Fulton-El Centro Regional Medical Center, Maria Andrade-Thomas Acierno, D.D.S., Maria Munoz-Thomas Acierno, D.D.S., Marcos Correa-Imperial Heights, Jessie Sanchez-Brawley Union High School, Roxine Zamora-Imperial County Office of Education Valley Academy, Samantha Chimits-Holtville High School, and Reyna Saldana-IVROP/Imperial High School.

Purpose - Mr. Aguirre welcomed everyone and explained the purpose of the meeting which is to provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the programs, and provide an overview of labor market conditions. Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time through the check-in process at the school sites.

Review Local Job Opportunities - Ms. Fulton discussed community agency needs she had recognized. In order to reach their targeted populations for services, many agencies utilize community health workers. Ms. Fulton noted that a standardized and certified community health worker program, such as the one offered at Southwest High School, may result in a pathway leading to stable entry-level positions in the health industry. She did clarify that the need for more program completers in this specific area is imminent and that, although the starting pay for a community health worker is around \$14-\$20 per hour, there are just not enough applicants that are qualified for the positions. Ms. Fulton indicated that this need spans across the industry including organizations such as Clinicas De Salud del Pueblo, the hospitals, the asthma linkage program and others.

Discuss Current and Future Trends including Entry-Level Wages, Technology/Equipment Changes - Mr. Ortiz mentioned that an industry trend that he has been following is the need for entry- to mid-level skilled workers. One of the biggest issues that he has seen is the need for bilingual scribes to translate medical terminology in both Spanish and English. He stated that this need is currently present in the hospitals, community based organizations and in several health organizations. Mr. Ortiz provided an update specific to Imperial Valley College (IVC) stating that IVC's registered nursing program and vocational nursing program were increasing admissions from 25 to now 30 students. Also, the pharmacy technician program is growing as well and will now be offered every semester instead of every other semester.

Ms. Zamora asked if there were possibilities of students testing out of entry-level IVC courses. Ms. Zamora asked Mr. Ortiz where students could potentially test to obtain the scribe certification. At this time, Mr. Ortiz is aware of Pioneers' scribe

program, but it is limited to in-house only. Mr. Ortiz recommended that IVROP reach out to Pioneers to see if there was room for a partnership which may allow high school students to participate in their scribe program.

Work-Based Learning Opportunities - Ms. Saldaña briefly explained the upcoming San Diego State University Health Coaching Program and elaborated on the importance of mentoring programs such as this within the Imperial Valley communities. Mr. Ortiz asked the teachers regarding their student's role in the community and if there was room for expansion in the area of understanding and speaking to community members about health insurance and coverage options. Ms. Zamora elaborated that although students do not currently go into the community to speak about this topic, as instructors they do see the importance in the students understanding current issues within the industry, such as health care options and insurance. Ms. Zamora explained that they do go over the difference between HMO, PPO, and Medicare Part D and the importance of each within the healthcare system. Mr. Aguirre mentioned that this was a perfect opportunity for industry partners to list in their survey how they can help better facilitate the relationship for work-based learning opportunities with the schools.

Externship for Teachers - Mr. Aguirre explained the teacher externships, citing past experiences and how the opportunity to be back in the industry helps to reinvigorate the instructors and to update and refine their course instruction. He discussed other areas for employer/ advisor support such as classroom presentations, equipment donations, work site tours, and hosting students during worked based learning.

Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC "a-g" Designation - Ms. Zamora would like to pursue that her course become articulated. She mentioned that in the past IVC could not guarantee the articulation would be approved since the students may only be in her class for part of the time. She asked that IVROP consider assisting her with this process. Mr. Aguirre would relay this request to Mr. Campos for further planning.

Industry Certifications - Ms. Zamora indicated that a requirement for the students in her class was the ability to type at least 40 words per minute. She shared the importance of this skill for several industry certifications including a typing certification and a medical translator certification. She would like to obtain more information to add the scribe certification that was mentioned at this meeting.

Involvement Survey - Mr. Aguirre reminded the group to complete Engagement Survey/Evaluation.

Industry Group 3 - Public Services

The following individuals were present: Facilitator Adrian Gonzales; Notetaker Debbie Burquist; Ken Phillips-Centinel State Prison, Officer Michael Ramirez-Centinel State Prison, Gabrielle Williams-Calexico High School, Cory Van Driessche-Central Union High School, Robert Smith-Central Union High School, and Susan Villon-Brawley Union High School

Purpose - Mr. Gonzales introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the programs and provide an overview of labor and market conditions. Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time through the check-in process at the schools.

Review Local Job Opportunities - Mr. Phillips said that the prisons are self-contained cities and there were many non-uniformed job opportunities, such as plumbers and electricians. Mr. Phillips reported that the prison had received 40,000 applications to hire 1,000 employees and the state would be hiring another 500 uniformed employees. He stated that an applicant's credit is a huge factor in the hiring process and an applicant was automatically disqualified if their credit did not meet CDC requirements. Mr. Phillips said the hiring process for a correctional position within the prison system has been shortened to three months compared to the previous wait time of 18 to 24 months and an entry-level monthly salary is \$5,200, straight pay with no overtime. He said there were 35 prisons in California. Mr. Ramirez reported that it was extremely vital for applicants to establish credit in becoming responsible adults for the workforce, especially at CDC.

Current and Future Trends in the Field including Entry-Level Wages, Technology/Equipment Changes - Mr. Phillips announced that Proposition 36 and 47 have changed the laws, which means inmates are being released from prison more frequently than before. The ratio mentioned by Mr. Phillips was that approximately 9 out of 10 prisoners will be released and that

the California Department of Corrections (CDC) focus is to place more inmates in rehabilitation and development programs. He stated that the correctional department is working on preparing the inmates for the workforce and California is ready to start this process.

Work-Based Learning Opportunities - Mr. Ramirez reported that San Diego State University has a "Para-professional 150 hour" program. Mr. Van Driessche announced that in the future his seniors will be allowed to do ride-alongs while being in the El Centro Police Department Explorers Program. He mentioned that each student must meet the criteria and that he is working with the chief of the El Centro Police Department on working out the logistics. Mr. Van Driessche stated that his law students participate in a prison tour for four to six hours and last year he had 14 seniors that enlisted in the military. Mr. Van Driessche mentioned that he encouraged the law academy students to enlist in the military to get their education and learn job skills, since they cannot get hired in law enforcement until they are 21 years of age. Mrs. Williams said that Calexico's Law Academy has a Border Patrol Mentor Program and she is ready to move forward to provide more opportunities for the students.

Externships for Teachers - Mr. Phillips announced that he was willing to do whatever he could to help instructors.

Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC "a-g" Designation - Mr. Van Driessche explained that his courses were articulated and dual enrolled with IVC and the courses were UC "a-g" approved and explained that he starts his recruitment from the feeder schools.

Industry Certifications - Mr. Van Driessche announced that Mr. Lyon approved the "OC Pepper Spray Training" for the law academy program at Central Union High School.

Involvement Survey - Mr. Gonzales encouraged members to complete the survey on how they could assist the CTE pathways.

Industry Group 4 – Education, Child Development & Family Services; Fashion & Interior Design

The following individuals were present: Facilitator Maria Pantoja; Notetaker Emmanuel Torales; Samantha Salas-Urbano Interior Planning, Beatriz Hernandez-Urbano Interior Planning, Magda Franco-United Families Inc., Carmen Heredia-Imperial County Office of Education, and Sergio Serrano-Imperial County Office of Education.

Purpose - Ms. Pantoja explained the purpose is to provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the programs, and provide an overview of labor market conditions. Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time through the check-in process at the school sites.

Review Local Job Opportunities - Ms. Salas mentioned that new careers emerge in the interior design industry including lighting designers, sustainable designers, kitchen designers and bath designers. Ms. Heredia commented that there are always entry-level jobs emerging in the educational field. She said that these positions include substitute teachers, instructional aides, and academic tutors.

Current and Future Trends in the Field including Entry-Level Wages, Technology/Equipment Changes – Ms. Heredia mentioned that a first-year early care teacher makes about 15-18 dollars per hour, while an entry-level job, such as an instructional assistant, earns about 11 dollars per hour. Ms. Franco commented on how important it is for individuals to possess basic computer skills to perform assessments. She added that individuals wanting to pursue a career in the education field should have excellent writing skills. Ms. Salas provided her insight on the entry-level wages in the interior design industry stating that interior design assistants start at about 13-15 dollars per hour. Ms. Hernandez commented on how technology and equipment changes are always taking place in interior design as new programs are added and/or updated constantly.

Work-Based Learning Opportunities - Ms. Salas mentioned that it is essential for interior designers to sell and/or market themselves as part of the job. She truly believes that it is important for students to begin gaining experience in the field and making connections in the world of design so that they can begin to market their skills at a young age. Ms. Salas said a great way high school students can market themselves in this field is

by uploading pictures or video of interior design work they have completed in their home or at the home of a friend. Ms. Heredia mentioned that high school students can learn how to become future educators by talking to teachers and shadowing them as teacher aides. Ms. Franco commented on how individuals can begin fulfilling necessary requirements by earning certificates and passing exams, such as the California Basic Education Skills Test (CBEST).

Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC “a-g” Designation – Ms. Pantoja explained that articulation is a credit-by-exam process for students to acquire college credit. Dual enrollment is the same as being enrolled in a college course. The student's high school class grade is transferred to their college transcript. She explained that “ag” courses are approved by the University of California for admission: a=history/social science, b=English, c=Mathematics, d=Laboratory Science, e=language other than English; f=visual and performing arts, g=College preparatory elective.

Ms. Salas said there are specific interior design courses individuals should take at university level. In addition, Ms. Salas commented that specializing in certain areas of interior design, such as lighting and staging, could be an advantage when trying to join the industry. Ms. Franco mentioned a child development website (<https://www.childdevelopment.org/cs/cdte/print/htdocs/home.htm>) that explains exactly what classes need to be taken for individual to enter the industry, as well as financial aid assistance programs. Ms. Heredia indicated that obtaining that real life experience is vital since it helps make students responsible and it provides them with proper work ethics.

Industry Certifications - Ms. Pantoja asked what other certifications are critical for employment. Ms. Heredia said that it is important for students to obtain necessary permits and/or certifications so that they can be eligible to work in education. An example of this can be a teaching credential. Ms. Salas mentioned that there are always new and upcoming programs or certificates specific to fashion or design that individuals can earn or develop a specialty.

Involvement Survey – Ms. Pantoja reminded members to complete their surveys on ways they could assist pathways.

Industry Group 5 – Arts, Media & Entertainment; Information & Communication Technologies

The following individuals were present: Facilitator Linda Valenzuela; Notetaker Vivian Cuevas; Reporter Mr. Jeffers; Jim Eyer-El Centro Regional Medical Center, Joe Apodaca-Imperial High School, Ramona Campos-Central Union High School, Mary Robledo-Central Union High School, Olga Ortega-Central Union High School, Anita Jones-Brawley Union High School, Don Jeffers-Central Union & Southwest High Schools and Emilio Davila-Central Union High School.

Purpose – Ms. Valenzuela introduced herself and welcomed everyone. She explained the purpose of the meeting is to provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the programs, and provide an overview of labor market conditions. Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time through the check-in process at the school sites.

Review Local Job Opportunities - Mr. Eyer presented information on the new Central Site Plan, a new three story tower to be placed next to the El Centro Regional Medical Center (ECRMC) facility. Mr. Eyer stated new jobs and careers will be emerging, especially two Technology Tier I positions at the new ECRMC facilities.

Current and Future Trends in the Field including Entry-Level Wages, Technology/Equipment Changes - Mr. Eyer stated that the future trend in the technology field was creating a cyber security network for health care. Their goal for the future is to focus less on coding and networking and focus on the cyber security issues that are causing the most difficulties in all industries. Mr. Eyer then clarified that the technology in the hospital over the past few years has been hacked through their ECRMC website, employer email and even through the phones.

Work-Based Learning Opportunities - Ms. Valenzuela asked what work-based learning opportunities may be available in local business/organizations in the areas of internships, guest speakers, work-site tours, job shadowing, etc. Mr. Davila asked Mr. Eyer if ECRMC or San Diego still provided field trips, tours,

and shadowing for students in the medical field and if they would still be interested in these activities. Mr. Jeffers stated that in his classroom he had two well-prepared sharp students ready to be A+ certified, and asked if his students would be able to do volunteer work at ECRMC. Mr. Eyer agreed that students could receive hands-on experience as well as tours of the facilities. Mr. Eyer said that he is available to participate as a guest speaker and teachers could send him an email.

Externships for Teachers – Mr. Jeffers will make arrangements with Mr. Eyer for a possible summer internship at ECRMC.

Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC “a-g” Designation – Ms. Valenzuela explained that articulation is a credit-by-exam process for students to acquire college credit. Dual enrollment is the same as being enrolled in a college course and the student's high school class grade is transferred to their college transcript. She said that “a-g” courses are approved by the University of California for admission: a=history/social science, b=English, c=Mathematics, d=Laboratory Science, e=language other than English; f=visual and performing arts, g=College preparatory elective.

Ms. Valenzuela showed the current lists of approved CTE courses that are approved for Articulation, Dual Enrollment or UC “a-g”.

Industry Certifications - Mr. Eyer stated that the new businesses will be looking for people who are skilled on the newest hardware and understand cloud-based solution problems and issues. Mr. Jeffers mentioned he will explore the availability of school funding and pursue the possibilities of upgrading hardware and software licensing to help students learn with the latest technological solutions. These upgrades will help students learn about the latest issues on the latest equipment as well as virtual issues.

Involvement Survey – Ms. Valenzuela reminded members to submit their survey on ways to be involved with the CTE courses.

Industry Group 6 – Building & Construction Trades; Energy, Environment & Utilities; Manufacturing & Product Development; Transportation

The following individuals were present: Facilitator Lupe Garcia; Notetaker Yessenia Gallardo; Sam Couchman-City of Brawley & 8-Minute Energy, Andrea Roark-Imperial Valley Housing Authority, William Green-Green Construction, and Frank Cervantes-Brawley Union High School.

Purpose – Ms. Garcia explained the purpose of the meeting is to provide up-to-date information on current trends in business and industry, make recommendations for the improvement of the programs, and provide an overview of labor market conditions. Members are invited to visit CTE classes at any time through the check-in process at the school sites.

Review Local Job Opportunities – Mr. Couchman explained that many openings are anticipated in specific utilities and geothermal projects in Imperial County. He added that many times individuals in these positions could follow other projects, but that means they would need to relocate to a new out-of-town site. Mr. Couchman specified that about 600-700 people will be hired for special projects such as solar energy. He added that Mortinson will hire union electricians, welders, security, fencing, clerical, washing panels, and many more. Some of these projects are for six-month employment opportunities. Mr. Couchman mentioned that a new geothermal project in the Salton Sea area will start soon and will hire construction workers, welders, and electrical workers. Mr. Couchman also mentioned that Imperial Irrigation District hires occasionally.

Current and Future Trends in the Field including Entry-Level Wages, Technology/Equipment Changes – Ms. Roark announced that the Housing Authority of Imperial Valley hires for the building trades, such as air conditioning, construction and similar projects. Individuals need their EPA Refrigerant Certification. The Housing Authority has 511 housing units and each has their own air conditioning system that needs to be maintained. They have difficulty finding qualified skilled workers in this area.

Mr. Couchman mentioned that there will be new housing project coming soon in the east side of Brawley. These units will provide construction opportunities. Mr. Green stated that his construction company is in need of skilled labor workers in the areas of flooring, cement, carpentry, and electrical. Mr. Green inquired about IVROP Project WORK that may help provide work experience incentives. Ms. Garcia would relay the request for additional information to Mr. Aguirre, Project WORK Coordinator.

Mr. Cervantes mentioned that his students are prepared for entry-level positions, but usually he recommends that they pursue more advanced education and refine their skills. Placements may be an option for students at the end of their second year. He encourages the students to perfect their skills through hands-on experiences.

Mr. Couchman emphasized that safety concerns are an important aspect of all building, energy, welding and similar fields. He explained that in the renewable energy, workers need to adapt to the changing technology. Mr. Cervantes confirmed that the welding techniques are the same, but equipment is changing constantly. Mr. Couchman and Ms. Roark agreed that all technical industries are constantly changing and the workers need to stay informed on regulatory or industry changes. In energy and construction, upgrades to energy saving and weatherization are important aspects. Mr. Green agreed that the construction field changes to more efficient use of material for energy efficiency.

Mr. Cervantes is working with training schools to come in to the high school to provide students with their school's information. He added that General Dynamics NASSCO ship yard in San Diego is a viable employment option for students leaving Universal Technical Institute.

Work-Based Learning Opportunities – Ms. Garcia informed attendees about work-based learning for students. She mentioned that IVROP provides the workers compensation and liability insurance coverage for students while at a non-paid placement site. Mr. Green prefers to hire individuals that have limited skills so that he can continue providing the training they need to work at his business sites. He would prefer that the individual is referred by the instructor to ensure that they have the minimum safety and general construction skills. Mr. Green mentioned that he would be open to hosting an industry tour of students to view his business and/or a job site.

Externships for Teachers – Members are open to hosting teachers at their businesses and/or job sites for teachers to observe the latest trends in the construction and energy fields.

Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and UC "a-g" Designation – Ms. Garcia explained the articulation credit-by-exam process for students to acquire college credit, dual enrollment is the same as being enrolled in a college course and the student's high school class grade is transferred to their college transcript and also the "a-g" courses are approved by the University of California for admission. a=history/social science, b=English, c=Mathematics, d=Laboratory Science, e=language other than English; f=visual and performing arts, g=College preparatory elective. Members reviewed lists of courses for all three areas.

Industry Certifications – Members reviewed a list of industry certifications. For air conditioning, members mentioned the need for EPA Refrigerant Certification for qualified air conditioning workers. Other industry certifications are helpful for specialized training in the construction field.

Involvement Survey – Ms. Garcia reminded members to submit their survey on ways that they could be involved with the CTE pathways.