

Career & Technical Education Local Advisory Committees

The background of the slide is a green chalkboard. In the lower-left quadrant, two pink chalk sticks are positioned diagonally. The chalkboard is covered with faint, white chalk markings, including a large circle on the left, a curved line in the center, and an arrow pointing upwards and to the right in the bottom center.

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Local Advisory Committees

- What are they?
- Why are they important?
- What should they look like?



What are They?

- Business, industry, the professions, and labor continually seek ways to bring about desired changes in the workplace.
- Their points of view are crucial to the design, implementation, evaluation, and revision of successful career and technology education programs.



Why are They Important?

- Local advisory committees provide the means for a CTE curriculum to remain relevant to business and industry needs.
- Relevance of instruction is the school's assurance that graduates will be capable of performing entry-level job skills.



What are They?

- ...a group of employers and employees from outside the field of education who advise educators on the establishment and maintenance of CTE programs
- Can be called a “Council” or a “Committee”.
- The terms are interchangeable.



Why are They Important?

- Advisory committee members who become familiar with CTE programs, and who are themselves employed in the field as well as being a potential employer of graduates, have a unique perspective of a training program.



Why are They Important?

- They can provide an informed viewpoint that is invaluable to the educational process.
- Local advisory committees create partnerships between CTE programs and the industries they serve.





Why are They Important?

- Citizens who are involved in the operation of their schools and school personnel are better able to understand the needs of the occupations being served.



Why are They Important?

- Local advisory committees promote public awareness of CTE programs. Community members are given the opportunity to become familiar with all the programs offered by a school district



Why are They Important?

- Public Relations: Both formally and informally, advisory committee members communicate the operation of CTE programs to others in the community.

What Should They Look Like?

- Two Types of Advisory Committees
 - Local Program Advisory Committees
 - District-Wide CTE Advisory Committee (also known as B.E.S.T. Committee)





B.E.S.T. Committee

- **Business Education Success Team**
- Provide direction for the entire CTE program in a school district.
- Assist the school/district in developing long range plans/goals and recommends the overall CTE program design.
- Members are representative of the occupations and demographics present in the community

Local Advisory Committee

- The local advisory committee serves single career clusters, program or occupational area
- The local advisory committee may be formed for one school or may serve one cluster or occupational area for the entire district.



Local Advisory Committee

- The local advisory committee offers specific advise on the needs of business and industry being served by the programs.
- And ensures that the CTE programs or cluster they represent stay current with industry needs.



Local Advisory Committee

- Sometimes referred to as “Program” Advisory Committee
- In large schools districts, program advisory committees may act as “committees” of the BEST Committee






Effective Use of Advisory Committees

- Effective utilization of advisory committees is a key element to the success of any CTE program.
- Although an advisory committee can have significant influence on decisions affecting CTE programs, its members must clearly understand that their role is that of an advisor, not an administrator



Recommendations for an Effective CTE Program

- Establish an advisory committee
- Maintain a desired relationship with that advisory committee



Recommendations for an Effective CTE Program

- A successful advisory committee will depend on your attitude and efforts
- Be clear in your expectations and constant in your communication



Recommendations for an Effective CTE Program

- Listen with an open mind
- Include school leaders in the dialog and recommendations



Recommendations for an Effective CTE Program

- Meet regularly
- Have a planned, short agenda
- Keep minutes and act on recommendations