



Business Advisory Meeting Notes

August 3, 2022

In attendance

Jaime Cherry

Veronica Sanders

Will Carpenter

Kent Hodges

There were no new updates at this time, since school just started. We would likely have more information on enrollment and participation finalization by the next meeting.

Certifications are offered as an option to some of the courses that fall later in various course sequences.

The question was asked of industry members, were these opportunities that students *should* take advantage of?

Both Will and Kent said that students should take these exam opportunities when they present themselves. It does make them much more marketable and there are also times when these types of certifications will be required within the scope of their jobs. It is much easier to take these when the information is fresh, but it also prepares them and allows them to see what knowledge is required.

What could students do to better prepare for these exams, outside of their classroom coursework?

Kent suggested that platforms like YouTube have a variety of tutorials and examples that students might view to set a better foundation for what they can expect. These videos can be extremely helpful. While not every exam would be something that could be found, there are certainly good examples and it is good to search those opportunities.

These exams can be very expensive and vary in cost and the question arose regarding support for students to take the exams. Veronica conveyed that the grant stipend to participating schools could cover those costs if the schools chose to utilize their funding that way.

We discussed the challenge of a fully online pathway conveying that this is still a customer service-based career and the importance that students know and have the opportunity to be exposed to those soft skills. Individual schools have various tools to address this aspect but this is also a way industry can lend support. We touched on an idea to hold some type of IT/cyber specific career events where this could be addressed and presented. EEDW staff are also working to come up with ways and ideas to support schools with softskill career readiness.