

## North Central P-16 Council

### Minutes

January 17, 2014

#### PRESENT:

##### Members

Tim Amyx	Don Long	Patty Powell
Howard Bradley	Debra Maggart	Judy Schuelke
Jennifer Brown	Hilary Marabeti	Emily Short
Paige Brown	Jane McGuire	Len Silverman
Randy Campbell	Kelly Miller	Steve Sparks
Linda Cash	Reggie Mudd	Michael Torrence
Jennifer Cothron	Rick Parrent	Tami Wallace
Lisa Dickson	Brenda Payne	John Watz
Jerry Faulkner	Mae Perry	
Jimmy Johnston	George Pimentel	

##### Guest Speaker

William Fox, Director, Center for Business & Economic Research, College of Business Administration, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

#### BUSINESS:

Jerry Faulkner called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

The minutes of the October 18, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Upon motion by Brenda Payne, second by Michael Torrence, the minutes were approved.

##### Co-Chair Nomination/Election

Mike Davis requested to be removed as K-12 Education Co-chair and nominated Linda Cash as his replacement. Linda Cash accepted and was unanimously approved by the Council.

##### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Exploration Fair

Rick Parrent gave an update on the planning committee's progress. The date for the Fair is tentatively set for May 14, 2015 and will be hosted by VSCC. There will be approximately 35,000 8<sup>th</sup> graders participating if Sumner, Trousdale, Macon, Robertson and Wilson counties all commit. (Sumner and Trousdale have already committed.)

The next planning meeting is set for March 13, at 1:30 p.m., in the Ramer Great Hall at VSCC. Parrent invited all council members interested in participating to the meeting.

##### Drive to 55

William (Bill) Fox presented information concerning the Drive to 55 Initiative; their mission, goal and plan. The mission is not just for higher education, but also for workforce and economic development, to reduce unemployment and improve quality of life. The goal is to go from 32 percent of Tennesseans with college

degrees or certifications to 55 percent by the year 2025, focusing on the 25 to 65 year age group. The plan is to better equip students for the present and future workforce.

Workforce and development will need to get involved to bring in businesses that would yield higher paying salaries. Income in Tennessee has been the same as in the mid 90's and has stopped growing relative to the nation. Not creating on average the kind of jobs that would increase salaries. With the demand of better paying salaries would come the need to increase our 1/3 percent college degrees or certifications to 55. Fox stated he is optimistic about 2014 going up slightly better than 2013. By the end of 2014, it is projected, to have as many working as where before the depression.

For detailed information please see attached graphs Fox provided of the Academic Program Supply and Occupational Demand Projections for 2012–2025. For more information concerning the Drive to 55 Initiative, please view the web site at <http://www.driveto55.org/>.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.