

P20 Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 14, 2023

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: HCA Healthcare - North Carolina Division

In Attendance

Amy Barry, Samantha Cole, Kevan Frazier, Dr. John Gossett, Jamie Justus, Dr. Laura Leatherwood, Dr. Gene Loflin, Jorie Matijevich, Tracie Metz (myFutureNC), Emily Nicholson (staff), Tracy Parkinson, Nathan Ramsey, Dr. Bill Sederburg, Cindy Smale, Amy Strickland, Deb Tibbetts, Danielle Wittekind, Melissa Zenz (staff)

Welcome

Ms. Matijevich introduced herself and welcomed attendees to HCA Healthcare's offices. Mrs. Nicholson informed attendees about how to access the wifi and initiated introductions because so many new members were present.

Agenda

Mrs. Nicholson directed attendees to their agendas, and she began with general updates. First, she referred to the P20 Connector in their meeting packet, which contained several updates about P20's recent work, and she specifically requested input from attendees regarding the proposed KPI data visualizations. She said she will email the P20 Connector to attendees as well. She gave a brief overview of other updates in the P20 Connector. Mrs. Nicholson next informed the group about the planning process for next steps advocating for P20's policy priorities, which will include face-to-face meetings with the region's legislators and with P20 Council members, potentially to be held in September. Mrs. Nicholson then gave brief updates about the DOL grant that P20 is managing and the NCWorkforce Credentials that are being promoted at the state level and that P20 is promoting regionally.

Mrs. Nicholson moved to the next agenda item and explained the pre-meeting questions and paired discussions that will aid in the Council's branding and marketing efforts. She instructed attendees to break out into small workgroups to work on the questions.

Workgroups

Mrs. Nicholson reconvened the attendees in a single group and began the report-out portion of the agenda. Ms. Tibbetts, Dr. Sederburg, Dr. Loflin, Dr. Leatherwood, and Ms. Cole each reported for their small groups their responses to three prompts:

1. In 25 words or less, the P20 Council is . . .
2. The regional network of the P20 Council can help MY organization /institution address these categories by: _____ (i.e., what can P20 do for my organization/institution?)
3. My organization/institution can contribute to OUR regional network of P20 in our collective approach to address these categories by: _____ (i.e., what can my organization/institution do for P20?)

Dr. Loflin asked whether the personal finance course that is now required in NC high schools contained anything about workforce/pathways, and if not, wondered whether that content could be added. Mr. Frazier noted that there is a shortage of workers in the region and that there are barriers to entering education, and he gave examples of childcare, career coaching, and trying to balance work and school. He shared about his experiences as an employer and restaurant owner and how he tries to help prepare his employees for future jobs. Ms. Metz noted how intimidating it is to go back to school as an adult, and she spoke about the need to provide student support services as well as family support services. Dr. Leatherwood said that they have begun by putting career coaches in both high schools, and she said that DPI now requires career development in middle school. Dr. Sederburg asked to clarify whether Dr. Leatherwood and Dr. Frazier were advocating that P20 focus more on basics rather than pathways, and he asked whether they thought P20 should be thinking about teaching basic workforce skills. Dr. Leatherwood replied that both are necessary, and she stressed that future workers will need to compete not only against other people but also against technology. Mr. Parkinson and Mr. Ramsey commented on how some regional jobs can only be filled by locals because people can't afford to move here to live here, and we need to train people who are already here to be able to fill the open jobs.

Closing Comments and Adjourn

Mrs. Nicholson moved to the last page of the meeting packet, and she shared information with attendees on upcoming events and opportunities in which they could participate and provide input, including the November 8th Regional Convening, Brand Visioning Workshop, and Student Ambassadors. She solicited volunteers for the next cohort of the P20 Executive Committee and Action Teams. She asked whether there were any final questions or comments, and there were none. Mrs. Nicholson adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting

November 17, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Transylvania County (specific location TBD)