Youth Council

**January 10, 2018**

**706 N. Victory Drive**

**Mankato, MN**

**Those Present:** Arianna Boelter, Maria FitzSimmons, Michelle Forliti, Heather Gleason, Chris Jensen, Tavia Leonard, Amanda Mackie, Jon Mahan, Jeannie Meidlinger, Kim Mueller, Jon Nowak, Kari Oachs, Emily Roiger and Gwenn Wolters.

### Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Deanna Steffensmeier called the meeting to order and members introduced themselves.

### Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Deanna Steffensmeier called for the approval of the October meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Michelle Forliti and seconded by Amanda Mackie. The motion carried.

### Partners In Career Exploration

Partners In Career Exploration program recruits interns from the Student Counseling Program at Minnesota State University-Mankato to provide career exploration services to high school students. Six interns were present to share their experiences at their schools. The interns have provided career exploration and career counseling assistance through one-on-one advising and classroom presentations. Interns are assisting with career testing, financial aid and scholarship applications. Interns are also assisting counselors with career day preparations.

### Career Connections Program

Jon Mahan from the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters presented on the Career Connections Program. This is a curriculum available to high schools to explore careers in the trades, relates math to real life work scenarios and includes project ideas. Students that complete the program and choose to enter an apprenticeship will receive credit for their previous work. Local schools that participate include Lake Crystal-Wellcome-Memorial and Fairmont.

### Updates

Youth Program Updates  
Heather Gleason distributed the year-end report for Program Year 2016 WIOA Youth and Minnesota Youth including special grants for youth in foster care, youth from communities of color, and teen parents.

Outreach to Schools

Michelle Forliti distributed and reviewed a summary of Career Services that are offered to area high schools including the Higher Education Career Advisor Project (HECAP) services and new this year Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) for youth with disabilities.

Career Events  
Jeanne Meidlinger reported that South Central College in partnership with South Central Service Cooperative will be hosting a Career Navigator events beginning January 19th. Area schools will attend two days and explore a variety of careers in the MDE career wheel.

Gwenn Wolters reported that Career Expo which is an interactive career fair for area sophomores will take place on March 14th.

Scrubs Camp is a 3 day camp for area high school students to explore careers in healthcare. The dates will be announced soon so more information will be coming.

Heather Gleason reported that the Construct Tomorrow event took place at the end of October. There were about 600 students that attended. We have already scheduled a date for next year on November 28, 2018.

Greater Twin Cities United Way Grant  
Gwenn Wolters from the South Central Service Cooperative has been hired as the Regional College and Career Readiness Coordinator. Part of her time is with Carl Perkins and the other is with the Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) grant. The purpose of the grant is to provide career pathway opportunities for high school students in healthcare, manufacturing and IT careers at the following schools; Le Sueur-Henderson, Madelia, St. James/Butterfield, St. Peter and Tri-City United. Students will earn 12 college credits. Students are in the process of registering for these classes which will begin Fall semester.

### Other Business

Next Meeting: PLEASE NOTE THE DATE AND LOCATION

***March 7, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.  
South Central Service Cooperative***

***2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato  
Conference Room C***

The meeting adjourned.