CTC Minutes – October 25, 2016

Dear Members of the Community Transition Council,

Michael thanked everyone for coming and recognized the ICG and all the work they have been doing. We had approximately 40 people in attendance.

Agency Updates:

Goodwill – Anthony Centille introduced Chad Hart – works with Access in the SW section of Kent County. They are continuing transition services as in the past.

DAKC – Bonnie Miller reported that they are still continuing to service families as usual.

Tammy Finn – ARC Kent – This evening they are hosting a group of families to get input on services for the state. Tammy has been trained on a new Home Community Based program. Michael suggested that she present next month on that.

Debbie Rock – MI Alliance for Families – contract has been renewed another year through ARC Kent.

Joann Crumm – Network 180 – Her group provides more direct services now that administrative services are gone. Students with autism that are eligible for Medicaid can be referred to Network 180 now.

MRS – Joe Champion – Providing pre-employment services with KTC. Kathleen Weaver reported that they are working on maximizing their dollars and impact.

KTC – Duane Kiley – reported out on the exciting things happening with their new program.

Hope Network – Cynthia Alfterink – Hope Network has expanded into Ottawa County. 85% of students in Project SEARCH have become employed. This year they will use the transition expos in place of open houses to network with parents. They will be going to a different school each week to talk about PS. Last year was the first year they accepted diploma bound students. The question was asked if they would do tours again this year and Cynthia instructed the group to contact PS for tours.

Transition Boot Camp Outcomes & Survey Results:

Michael used the data from the Transition Needs Survey to develop some of the content for these trainings. There were 45 attendees on September 21 and 40 on September 26. The feedback surveys on the 21st were very encouraging and seemed right on with their role and training provided. The group on the 26th requested more information regarding the transition process. This initiated a new Transition Needs Survey on 10/10/16. The 67 respondents expressed a clear desire for more “targeted” professional development.

MDE Update:

Michael was out of town at a DCDT conference so Laurie VanderPloeg attended the MDE Transition Workshop on October 19. The manual and checklist has some language exchanges. Michael will email the training document and PowerPoint to the group.
ICG Update:

Michael works alongside the group to develop the curriculum for the CTC meetings. They will also be looking at EDP Process and Personal Curriculum. The group would like to add a HS Counselor. For parent outreach they have decided to hold the Transition Expo on four different dates at four different locations. They will be looking at Transition Assessments and offer some training later this year. Looking at creating a Transition Portfolio that will carry the essence of the student’s experiences through their transition.

Upcoming Events:

Student Transition Conference is on November 16. Tenth grade students will do Life Unplugged and tour KCTC. The 11th and 12th grade students will rotate between four different topics covering the four areas of transition.

The Transition Expo will take place at four different locations on four different dates. Kim Norman mentioned that some districts are approving this as a transition activity. Michael is producing an activity card that students can use at the expo to generate questions and discussions.

CTC Planning Activity:

Comments about CTC

Bonnie Miller – comes for the past three years. Always thought it was just for teachers.

Theresa Bundy – has come for the past few years – has found agency information useful

Michelle Green – coming for a few years – always thought it was more for agencies.

Heidi Prior – way back a group met for a work study and then CTC was formed. It was difficult at first to get agencies to come.

Kim Norman – feels biggest benefit is to put a face with the name of the agency reps.

Karl Fonnesbeck – helpful to have a forum to ask questions, maybe present a case study.

Emily said it would be helpful to have information accessible.

Heidi Prior said it would be nice to bring situations to the group but we only meet quarterly. Michael entertained the idea of meeting more often for a shorter time frame.

Michael reviewed the CTC purpose statement and asked if the group felt we were meeting that purpose.

Table Activity

Green post it- What motivates you to participate in CTC that could hold value and meaningful for others who are not currently participating?

Orange post it – What can CTC do to benefit you and your professional role?

Pink post it – How can success be measured specific to the impact CTC activities has for students of transition age?
Green responses: Agency collaboration is a general theme. Networking with colleagues to glean best practices. Being a leader of transition knowledge and resources. Recommendations are having case studies, like monthly meeting idea but cutting down to two hours and targeting specific issues for PD.

Orange responses: Understanding community agencies roles and criteria. Being up to date on all levels – stuff they need to do. Building knowledge. Being able to write a compliant IEP. CTC could help by developing flow charts for agencies. Could help by presenting case examples and discussing them. Not sure about more meetings due to subs. Creating an online checklist filter for students and parents. Possibly a grant to have one person as a filter resource.

Pink responses: A survey to determine how and what services have been used. IEP Support: Tracking participation of community agency reps, Long term employment rate data, how many enrolled in higher ed, measuring successful progress. Attendance of the group? Would there be a way to track students when exiting – work, college, secondary programs? Maybe Google form?

How might we capture parent’s attention in transition more effectively? Utilize school email blasts. PASE Meetings. Info tables at conferences. IEPs.

Karl asked for a resource that would be like a blueprint of the IEP process. It was mentioned that the transition portfolio could help with that.

Three projects: Agency flow chart, Food – Lunch, Data survey, Parent packet

Heidi said we shouldn’t try to recreate the wheel – see what other districts, states are doing. Also, classroom teachers are concerned about having more work to do and want the time here at CTC to be well spent.