

Minutes of the Seattle/Shoreline Skills Center Study Meeting for Seattle Public Schools held February 9, 2007, 8:45am-2:30pm, beginning at New Market Skills Center, Tumwater, WA; Luncheon meeting with State Legislators, Olympia, WA; and Steering Committee Meeting at the Capitol Campus, Olympia, WA.

New Market Skills Center, Tumwater, WA

8:45 – 11:30am

Those present:

- Ms. Olga Addae, Vice President, Seattle Education Association
- Mr. John Aultman, Executive Director, New Market Skills Center
- Mr. Daniel Courtemanche, Student, New Market Skills Center
- Ms. Mary Davison, B,M&IT Instructor, Ballard High School, SPS
- Ms. Susan Grant, H&HS Instructor, Ingraham High School
- Mr. Jonathan Knapp, SE&I Instructor, West Seattle High School
- Mr. Darren Linker, Dept. of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences, University of Washington
- Mr. Tom Lopp, High Performance Standards, Inc.
- Ms. Myra McCormick, Alliance for Education
- Ms. Misha Nash, Student, New Market Skills Center
- Ms. Carole O'Neill, Volunteer for Women's Advocacy, Seattle, WA
- Ms. Bobbie Peterson, Director, CTE, Shoreline School District
- Mr. Shep Siegel, Manager, CTE, SPS
- Ms. Donnetta Spath, Director of Student Services-Instructional, New Market Skills Center
- Dr. Gary Stauffer, Youth Maritime Training Association (YMTA)
- Mr. Neal Storme, Independent Audio/Music Producer
- Ms. Roxanne Trees, CTE Specialist, SPS

Mr. Siegel opened the meeting. He explained that the Seattle and Shoreline Schools Districts are part of the state of Washington's \$400,000 Legislative Grant to conduct four feasibility studies to construct new skills center for Northeast King County, Seattle/Shoreline, Pierce County, and Moses Lake. He further explained the steering committee members were present to meet with New Market Skills Center administrators and to tour their facility.

Mr. Siegel stressed the meeting with the legislators was not for the purpose of lobbying, but for a questions and answers session regarding the proposed Seattle/Shoreline Skills Center.

Mr. Aultman, Executive Director and Ms. Spath, Director of Student Services of New Market Skills Center welcomed the steering committee members. Two students were present to speak about their studies at the center:

- Daniel Courtemanche is a New Market DigiPen Robotic Technology student who is using the skills from this course and the 3-D CAD class equipment to build a prototype of a patented idea for a car ramp for auto repairs involving wheel and drive systems. The prototype will then be taken to a manufacturer who will build the auto ramp. He provided an article from The Olympian entitled, *New Market teen builds entrepreneur's prototype*, explaining the project in further detail.

Ms. Grant asked about his level of math skills before entering into DigiPen Robotics; Daniel answered he has had full algebra, geometry and beginning trigonometry. After graduating

from New Market, Daniel plans on attending Centralia Community College for pre-courses in Aerospace Design, and then on to the University of Washington.

- Misha Nash said she came to New Market through a dropout intervention/prevention program, the Family Resource Advocate, who worked with Misha's family to help plan her school year. This 16-year old student is now enrolled in the Culinary Arts program and works as cashier during the lunch period. She explained that she is completing her studies at New Market by taking the Cisco Internet Technologies course (Cisco Academy) and a U.S. History course online through the Apex Learning system.

Mr. Aultman presented an overview of New Market Skills Center:

- The skills center was built in 1986 as a consortium of six school districts. Today, the center operates as a consortium of 10 school districts, comprised of 25 high schools. New Market's enrollment is at 900 students, or 500 FTE.
- New Market offers a 540-hour (one-half day) Preparatory program in two sessions, 2 ½ hours in the morning and 2 ½ hours in the afternoon. Staff prep time is from 10:30-11:25am.
- The skills center offers a 90-hour Exploratory summer program, enrolling approximately 1,000 9th, 10th and 11th grade students. The hours are from 7:30am – 3:30pm, 13 days in a row (equaling 90 hours). The cost for the program is a flat fee of \$50.
- The skills center also houses New Market High School for 17-19 year olds (no freshmen), as a "school within a school". The high school is made up of "5th year seniors", home school students, retrieved dropouts, and "kids who just like the center and stay here to take their high school courses." The skills center's model for operation is Exploratory courses at the high schools and Preparatory courses at the center.
- All New Market courses offer Tech Prep or college credit. New Market programs "mimic" community college courses, and do not compete with the high schools' CTE programs. The students "start" (similar to the Running Start program) at New Market and finish their training at a community college. Mr. Aultman estimated that out of the 9,000 students from the surrounding communities' high schools, the skills center only draws 2-3 students from each school.
- Transportation to New Market is by "yellow" school buses. The State reimburses the high schools for all transportation costs.
- Most of New Market's programs are based on business partnerships and are instructed by employees of business, not the school districts. The skills center holds contracts with DigiPen, St. Peter's Hospital, and Steamboat Veterinary Hospital. As an example, at St. Peter's Hospital the students receive 40-45 hours of hospital rotation, "hands-on" training within the facility. The instructors receive their paychecks from their own companies, but teach the courses at the skills center. Mr. Aultman said another benefit from the business partnerships is receiving donated equipment for the building.

- New Market believes in a strong marketing program for the skills center. Throughout the year, New Market invites students from the surrounding high schools for field days. Their high quality brochure projects a professional image in the community. New Market does mass mailings for recruitment purposes twice a year; March Madness (10th and 11th grade recruitment) and for the summer session. Mr. Aultman estimated New Market spends \$15,000/year for marketing the skills center.

Tour of the Facility

New Market Skills Center provides for career opportunities in 20 programs/courses. Cosmetology, Early Childhood Education, and Emergency Services: Firefighter/EMS are instructed outside the skills center in “real life” settings in the surrounding communities. The steering committee members toured the following programs:

- Academy of Finance
The students are provided direct experience working at the Washington State Employees Credit Union located on the center’s campus.
- Advanced Computer Education/Certified Internet Webmaster (Web Design)
- Automotive Service Technology / Collision Repair Technology
- Cisco Internetworking Academy / Information Systems Technology
- Construction Trades
- Culinary Arts (including a commercial setting, open to the public)
- DigiPen Computer Science AP (complete DigiPen Institute of Technology program). The course is also offered on-line for remote area students.
- Pre-Veterinary Technician
The students travel to Steamboat Veterinary Hospital for “clinical” during the course.
- Robotic Technology
- The members viewed the new Life Sciences building, soon to be occupied for the Biotechnology, Pre-Veterinary Technician and Environmental Sciences programs.

Besides the off-campus programs, the following New Market programs that were not toured included: Commercial Graphic Design, Criminal Justice/Protective Services and Microsoft Office.

After the tour, Mr. Aultman described New Market’s operating budget:

- New Market Skills Center’s buildings are owned by the Tumwater School District. The center’s “boss” is the Board of Directors comprised of the 10 school district superintendents. The Board makes up the policies and practices for the skills center, and provides all Business Services like HR, payroll and facilities planning. The skills center contracts with the Board

and pays 4% for the business services and pays directly for all utilities. The new skills center building was constructed by State Capital Improvements funds.

- New Market's instructors are all certified trainers adhering to industry standards.
- There are very few discipline problems at the skills center; the students are here by choice.
- New Market has a very good relationship with the high school counselors by holding a monthly meeting with them to discuss topics such as updates on the application process, the collection of evidence process and new programs for the summer school. The counselors work directly with New Market's Assessment & College Readiness Coordinator, who keeps complete student profiles of curriculum information to find the best solutions for the students' motivation, goal-setting, and planning for advanced programs.
- New Market studies current labor market analysis data to develop their programs.
- Ms. Trees stated that Seattle must provide engaging programs for students with disabilities, and that Early Childhood Development courses provide career opportunity for these individuals. She stressed that this course needs to be included no matter what the labor market shows. Mr. Aultman explained that New Market's Early Childhood Development program is held off-campus at a senior citizen center for direct "hands on" training for the students.
- Mr. Aultman said he recognizes the problems with the WASL and the need for other alternatives for high school students, but stated the skills centers should not be a "dumping ground" for dropouts. He warned that the legislators are not using the skills centers for this purpose and that the WASL must have been passed before enrolling at the centers.
- Mr. Aultman provided the attendees with a copy of House Bill 1977 dated 2/2/07, amending the legislation for Washington State Skills Centers. He mentioned two changes of the legislation: 1) the allowance for an evening session / summer school, and 2) funding changes for the skills centers.
- Mr. Siegel explained there is a planned meeting on February 23, 2007 with the Executive Council for the Seattle/Shoreline Skills Center Feasibility Study. The purpose of this meeting will be to inform the Council of the steering committee's accomplishments, to report the survey results and to gain their endorsement for the proposed skills center.

Mr. Siegel thanked the New Market administrators for their hospitality; the steering committee departed for the luncheon meeting with the legislators.

John A. Cherberg Building, Senate Hearing Room 1

Noon – 1:00pm

Those present: Senator Darlene Fairley, 32nd Legislative District (Shoreline)
 Representative Ruth Kagi, 32nd Legislative District (Shoreline)
 Representative and Vice Chair of the Capital Budget Timm Ormsby,
 3rd Legislative District (Spokane)

Representative Eric Pettigrew, 37th Legislative District (South Seattle)
Representative Pat Sullivan, 47th Legislative District (Auburn/Kent)
Mr. John Aultman, New Market Skills Center
Mr. David Westberg, Representative of International Union of Operating Engineers
Local 609; Seattle Public Schools Custodial Apprenticeship Program
Steering Committee Members

Mr. Lopp introduced the legislators. He explained that he had invited Representatives Ormsby and Sullivan because of their involvement in an earlier skills center feasibility study.

Mr. Siegel provided a copy of the letter he had prepared to the Executive Council for the Seattle/Shoreline Skills Center Feasibility Study. The letter included a listing of the viable program areas for the proposed Seattle/Shoreline skills center. He explained that he has planned a meeting with the Council for February 23, 2007 to inform them of the steering committee's accomplishments and to gain their endorsement for the proposed skills center.

Mr. Siegel stated the steering committee was present today to hear the concerns of the legislators and to answer their questions regarding the proposed Seattle/Shoreline Skills Center. He explained that the grant was awarded in November, 2006 but that the funds did not arrive until November of 2006. He further stated that a survey of community/business people, teaching staff and parents is being conducted. He plans to present the preliminary proposal for the skills center to the legislators by the end of March, 2007. He added that there are funds to provide preliminary architectural drawings for the proposed facility if time permits.

Mr. Siegel stated the steering committee will need to have secured both Seattle's and Shoreline's School Board approvals. He explained the process as calendar—introduction—pause—action.

Representative Ormsby estimated a timeframe of May or June, 2007 when the legislators would come back with their recommendation.

Mr. Siegel stated that he has met with administrators of Seattle Community College District and Seattle Vocational Institute to discuss the impact of a new skills center on their work. He further said that at one time SOIC was going to be the Seattle Skills Center.

Ms. Trees stated the Seattle/Shoreline Skills Center Feasibility Study has the support of Mr. Al Griswold, Director of Workforce Development at Seattle Central Community College and Mr. Dan Fey of the Workforce Development Council.

Mr. Siegel said that Bellevue School District had been invited to join the Skills Center Feasibility Study but is staying with NEVAC, Vashon Island School District had declined the offer, and that Highline School District already has a skills center, and that through OSPI's direction Seattle and Shoreline had joined to develop a skills center proposal.

Mr. Siegel stated the relationship of Shoreline School District and Seattle School District is geographically in close proximity and good for transportation, but that multiple sites (hub plus satellite sites) needed to be considered. He added that wherever the skills center is located, it does not displace the need to build strong high school CTE programs, with the skills center strengthening the high school programs.

Mr. Siegel stated that both King County and Pierce County community colleges have filled the gap for dropout retrieval, but that he would like the high school Career Academies to remain as a dropout prevention tool, and for the skills center to be a place for work source agencies.

Mr. Siegel provided a handout from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, entitled A Strategic Plan for Skill Centers—A Report to the Washington State Legislature, dated 11-17-06 Advance Draft. He explained that he is utilizing this document and the labor market forecasts developed by the Department of Employment Security to develop the plan for the Seattle/Shoreline skills center.

The following comments were made by the legislators and the members of the steering committee:

- Mr. Westberg stated he is excited about the possibility of a skills center to house the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 609's Custodial Apprenticeship program.
- Representative Ormsby stated that, in the past, Seattle did not conform to the skills center consortia model, but the legislators had decided it was time for Seattle to plan for a skills center model for expansion of CTE programs. He explained that Shoreline School District's close proximity to Seattle and their good WASL scores in math and science decided them for inclusion in this plan. The other areas of the Feasibility Study are Northeast King County, Moses Lake and Pierce County.
- Representative Ormsby said that the state legislators are very interested in CTE as a tool for keeping students in school and providing relevant training.
- Senator Fairley cautioned to always use the words "education" and "trades skills" in lieu of the word "training."
- Representative Kagi from the Shoreline area is in favor of the skills center. She said the courses to include are an Automotive program with courses to provide proficiency in Math and English (traditional academic track), DigiPen, and Microsoft Skills Certification.
- Senator Fairley stated, referring to DigiPen, that the kids are "gamers", and that "the kids want to play."
- Ms. Peterson stated the Shoreline School District could be part of both the NEVAC and Seattle skills centers, as the district has good access to both geographic areas.
- Mr. Siegel stated the Seattle School District has already developed partners/supporters in labor and industry, good teachers and strong infrastructure with school building administrators, but may encounter difficulty communicating with the senior leadership of the district.
- Representative Ormsby stated to gain the Cabinet level support. He suggested the steering committee draft a joint letter with the legislators to send out to the Cabinet members.
- Mr. Siegel stated he is concerned about the 2010 WASL graduation requirement as causing the kids to drop out of school and questioned if the state board of education should develop a fresh start for developing the graduation requirements, as not all kids are four-year, Baccalaureate-bound students.

- Representative Pettigrew stated there are many ESL families residing in his area. He further stated that the WASL requirement is a “dark cloud” in their lives.
- Mr. Knapp said that the hands-on approach to learning appeals to a certain type of kid. He envisions a skills center Automotive Technician program in partnership with the dealers. He added that graduates of this type of program could gain a career opportunity beginning at \$50,000/year average earnings.
- Representative Pettigrew wants to provide Career – to Living opportunities for his voter constituents.
- Ms. Addae, a former Voc Ed graduate in the health field, said that financial barriers need to be removed from the students who have no money for college or the grades for scholarships. She asked how to word the message to OSPI and to the legislators about this need. She added that she had used her vocational education experience to go on to a job then on to receive her college degrees.
- Representative Sullivan stated that Representative Kenney from the 46th Legislative District (Greenwood-Northgate-Lake City-Laurelhurst) is in favor of opportunity grants for the adult sector on public assistance to pay for incidentals, i.e., daycare, equipment/supplies, while attending school.
- Ms. Trees stated that the new CTE standards are really strong regarding employability.
- Ms. Peterson suggested to again take a “new” look at the graduation requirements for math and science, as they are “narrowing the pathway”. She warned that the AVID model is not the way to go since it is “kicking out” CTE programs. The WASL requirement is impacting students and taking away from “a trade to take to the bank” opportunities.
- Ms. Davison said the Academy of Finance program has been a catalyst for students to do something after high school and many want to attend college. She added that CISCO is a powerful model.
- Ms. Grant said the Ingraham High School IB Psychology Baccalaureate program is drawing in many college-bound students.
- Representative Sullivan said a good model to use in planning for the skills center’s programs is the Pre-Veterinary Technician program at New Market Skills Center.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.

Steering Committee Meeting at the Building Trades House

1:15 – 2:30pm

Mr. Siegel opened the meeting. He distributed a DVD that had been provided by the Building Trades House to Ms. McCormick and to the teachers to pass along to the SE&I CTE teachers at the high schools.

Mr. Lopp summarized the meeting with the legislators:

- The legislators came to support the CTE program.
- The legislators want alternatives to the WASL. They do not want remedial classes because of problems with attendance. They want to assess learning abilities of the students in a different way—they understand that students learn in many different ways.
- The legislators want programs with high academic/skills standards.
- Both Democrats and Republicans support CTE; CTE is considered nonpartisan.

The following comments were made by the steering committee members regarding the meeting with the legislators:

- Mr. Siegel said he felt the legislators' argument against going ahead with the skills center will be on the topic of building location.
- Ms. Trees stated she had attended the signing of the Governor Gregoire's Proclamation for the month of February as CTE Month and asked about her continued support.
- Mr. Siegel stated that the Seattle legislative team has put Seattle on the "radar" screen by including us in the feasibility study. He added that, except for the Pre-Veterinary Technician course, Seattle has every program that New Market did, but did say that Seattle is losing CTE in two of the high schools.
- Mr. Siegel said equipment dollars are low, and the steering committee must convince business and labor leaders to partner for good programs and to lower indirect costs. He questioned the idea of doing just one good program at a time. He believes that Seattle school administration's attitude will think there is not a high need for CTE; Shoreline's administration is not as bad but still a problem.
- Mr. Lopp said the legislators support CTE certification for all building directors as well as for the instructors. He reported that the state will allow a \$20,000 stipend to a school that employs a CTE certified building director. He suggested the steering committee contact Mr. Rod Duckworth, OSPI CTE Director to obtain the current CTE Director Certification requirements.
- Ms. Peterson stated that Central Washington University offers a CTE director/teacher certification course through their Masters Program. She said it is important for school administration to back the CTE programs. Mr. Lopp added that the legislators would like to "see a CTE certified administrator sitting at every table."
- Ms. McCormick stated her concern of the lack of follow-up data for the CTE students after graduation. Mr. Lopp said the students had been tracked by using their social security numbers, but the practice had to be suspended. He suggested that there may be some tracking data from the skills centers and SVI, as the "Feds" do require some kind of data.
- Mr. Siegel said the ACTE website provides information on CTE concentrators in the high schools and may provide some information for post-graduation. He stated he knows that CTE students attend and graduate from college, as do the other students.

- Ms. Addae asked if the steering committee should invite Mr. Peter Coates or Mr. Greg Mowat of Sound Transit?) to connect with the study. Mr. Siegel said we could include them the steering committee, which may need to meet twice in March.
- Mr. Siegel stated the Seattle/Shoreline survey of people from regional labor and industry, school staff and parents is being performed, with the deliverables available sometime before the end of March. He reported the cost for the survey at \$6,000.

Mr. Siegel asked the committee for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2007 Seattle/Shoreline Skill Center Study. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with the following corrections:

- Page 1 of 9 – under ‘Those present: Mr. Neal Storme’ change the word “Film” to the words “Audio/Music”.
- Page 3 of 9 – To the bulleted paragraph: “Ms. Grant gave support...” change the paragraph to read: “Ms. Grant asked if Geriatric Management/Daycare under the H&HS pathway would include Early Childhood Daycare as well as Geriatric? Mr. Siegel stated that yes, it could. Ms. Trees said the only...”
- Page 3 of 9 – To the bulleted paragraph: “Mr. Knapp voiced his concern...” change the paragraph to read: “Mr. Knapp stated he is a chaperone for the annual West Seattle Exchange Program to France. He voiced concern of losing these types of programs by moving the Hospitality/Tourism program to the skills center. In the future...”
- Page 3 of 9 – To the bulleted paragraph: “Mr. Storme stated...” change the word “Legislators” to the word “Governor”.
- Page 4 of 9 – To the bulleted paragraph: “Ms. Addae stated...” after the words “should provide” add the words “a true meaning of an equal learning opportunity, and question the practice of “double dosing”. She said at present,...
- Page 6 of 9 – Strikethrough bulleted paragraphs “Proposed locations:” and “PLAN B:”
- Page 9 of 9 – To the paragraph: “Mr. Lopp said he has invited....” change the number “291” to the number “29”.

The steering committee made the following remarks regarding the meeting/tour at New Market Skills Center:

- Mr. Siegel said he was impressed with the industry expertise of New Market’s teachers; highly motivated and knowledgeable individuals able to “market” their courses with ease during the class period.
- Mr. Siegel said he was surprised that New Market only gains 10% of high school CTE students from the 25 high schools. He noted that New Market is very well funded by partnerships and the Capital Budget, adding that one facility, one building showcases, while multiple locations do not showcase as well.

- Dr. Stauffer was impressed by New Market's high quality, multi-level marketing efforts. He liked the idea of holding monthly counselor meetings. He believes that it is a different environment than it is in the Seattle/Shoreline area, and that the "country" busing system works for them.
- Mr. Lopp said he liked the process of recording each class day's lesson plan on a DVD for the students to use to make up the class due to absence.

The steering committee members discussed strategies for the Executive Council meeting:

- Mr. Lopp stated that by March the steering committee must have come up with a location for the facility. Dr. Stauffer asked about the criteria for locating a skills center.
- Mr. Siegel plans to discuss the location for the facility at the Executive Council meeting on February 23rd. He looks forward to the support of the high school principals.
- Mr. Siegel stated he does not want to create a new advisory board structure and wants to keep the structure that is already in place to support both the high schools and skills center.
- Ms. McCormick stated that the advisory boards are important in the coordination of exploratory and preparatory courses.
- Mr. Storme said it can be "an uphill battle" dealing with school board administration. Mr. Siegel said invitations to the Executive Council meeting will be sent to members of the Seattle/Shoreline school boards and Ms. Carla Santorno, SPS Chief Academic Officer.
- Mr. Storme stated he did not notice a lot of integration between the departments at New Market. He envisions a skills center where the departments work within all disciplines, like it is done in real business. The students' curricula could be set up as business ventures, paid projects to generate funds to run the whole facility, i.e., the Automotive department servicing school district vehicles.
- Mr. Siegel stated the Seattle/Shoreline skills center will include the position of Executive Director, looking for an individual who has experience working with employers and industry folks.
- Mr. Siegel will request endorsements from the CTE advisory boards' business partners in support of the skills center.
- Dr. Stauffer asked about the skills center program themes, adding that the steering committee cannot ask for endorsements until it is sure of what programs will be put in place. Mr. Siegel said this topic will be addressed at the Executive Council meeting.
- Ms. Peterson stated she will invite Shoreline school administrators to the meeting on February 23.
- Ms. Trees said she has met with Mr. Griswold, Executive Dean, Workforce Education at SCCC. She stated Seattle Central Community College administrators are not against the

proposed skills center, but they are also trying to merge Seattle Vocational Institute and SCCC vocational programs.

- Mr. Siegel said the purpose of the Executive Council meeting is to enter a motion to approve the study proposal and to present the survey findings.
- Mr. Siegel stated that the cultural boundary issue in the Seattle area is the “number one” issue to work out.
- Ms. Addae stated the skills center could be a centered site with one satellite location.
- Mr. Linker said that the future tear-down of the viaduct will impact travel to Chief Sealth and Rainier Beach high schools. Mr. Siegel added there may be impacts due to the demolition of Denny Middle School.
- Mr. Lopp stated that satellite skills centers at the high schools do not sell well with the legislators. He said that business partners are more favorable to a stand-alone facility.
- Ms. Peterson stated that the Shoreline’s Fire Safety Program is already housed at a local Shoreline fire station.
- Mr. Siegel said he is confident with Seattle’s industry certification standards and with the three-year curriculum review process. The NATEF Certification is now in place at Garfield, Ingraham and West Seattle Automotive programs.
- Mr. Addae suggested starting CTE courses earlier in the middle schools.
- Ms. Trees asked if the legislators are going to fund all four of the proposed facilities. Mr. Lopp said that it is the goal to pay for the facilities in full out of the Capital Budget. He said he feels Representative Ormsby, Vice Chair of the Capital Budget would fund a central facility in Seattle, with 80% of the student body within 45 minutes driving distance.
- Mr. Lopp stated the steering committee must map out the curricula for the future CTE programs out to ten years.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Redfield
CTE Department