



LYFT Pathways Advisory Committee NOTES

March 23, 2021

9:30 – 11:30 AM

Meeting held via Zoom

Meeting Objectives...

- Share and reflect on the projects and efforts funded thus far through LYFT
- Explore new LYFT resources: video/3E's Roadmap
- Setting goals for FY22 funding
- Envisioning future: CTE/LYFT Sustainability

LYFT Pathways Updates

Tom Hoff, Career & Technical Project Coordinator, SWWC

LYFT Funds at Work in the Region: 45 LYFT applications approved; Avg size \$35,000; approximately \$2.2 million of funds spent including grants/staffing/admin (as of 3/17/21); Approximately \$610,000 committed for projects/staff for FY21-22.

LYFT Pathways Impact

SINCE INCEPTION...

- 8,717 Students Impacted**
- 45 LYFT Projects**
- 37 of them Courses**

490 Students Earned 1470 College Credits
Tuition Savings of about \$300,000

Average Project Award - \$35,000

Project Budget Matches for the 1st Year of \$1.7 Million

Year	Total Students	Cumulative
Fall 2016	0	0
Spring 2017	15	15
2017-18	91	106
2018-19	107	107
2019-20	4457	5534
2020-21	3183	8717

*All data based on estimates for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year

Projects have helped students...

- Gain career exposure
- Build community connections
- Build marketable career skills
- Develop life/work skills
- Explore entrepreneurship

"I have made an amazing connection with the social worker; job shadowing her brought social work into my career path decisions."

"I achieved CPR certification and now I can work for PCA."

"Most of what we learn in school is hypothetical and CEO is extremely hands on!"

LYFT Project Students

Regional Projects:

LYFT funding has also been used to provide opportunities on a regional basis in addition to partnership projects within high schools. Below are some examples of these projects:

- **FIRST Tech Challenge** helps students learn computer science, engineering, manufacturing, teamwork, problem solving, communications skills and more. Learn more at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sRuNnEWfNCs>

- [Learning Blade](#) is a system of interactive online lessons and printable at-home activities for 5th to 9th graders, where students learn about STEM and Computer Science careers while reviewing academics. Students can use over 400 online lessons in 12 human-centered "Missions" or stories to explore these exciting careers.
- [FutureForward™](#) is a web-based tool that connects classrooms to careers and life to learning. It connects students and educators with business and industry to interact for virtual and in-person experiences such as tours, job shadows, and more.
- **Work & Learn Coordinators and Career Navigators** employed by Southwest MN Private Industry Council and Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services play an important role in helping students and educators coordinate work-based learning and career exploration opportunities.

Evaluation –Ripple Mapping with U of M/Scott Chazdon has been completed with the Advisory Committee members, a group of students, and a group of educators/administrators. The next and final group will be businesses who have been engaged in projects. The student session produced some great comments.

"I learned to be willing to be uncomfortable; get out of my comfort zone."

"After mentoring second graders, I realized teaching is a career I would love to go into."

"I have a range of teachers, business owners, city council, & school board members willing to help me!"

"I really liked the shrimp farmer (Andy Easley), even though I have a severe food allergy to shrimp, he caught my attention and made me want to go into a job I physically cannot do! It was great!"

LYFT Project Students

Significant Accomplishments

The Committee reflected on the LYFT updates. Below is word cloud of key words/phrases that reflect the committee's thoughts on significant accomplishments:



Resources: Video and 3E's Roadmap

Committee members reviewed these new resources for students/educators available on the LYFT Career Pathways web site at: www.lyftpathways.org/the3Es. When asked for ideas on sharing and using these resources, the following emerged:

SHARING

- Share with School Counselors/Teachers/Parents
 - Email outreach
 - Posters with QR Codes
 - Add to all school websites
 - Social Media matched to audience/user
- Utilize existing networks
 - School In-Service Days
 - CTE/WBL/School counselor meetings
 - Statewide networking organizations
 - College Recruiter's Toolbox
 - Links on workforce development scholarships
 - Share w/ colleges that offer WBL licensure
- Youth Program staff/HS presentations
- Share at Career Expos/Events

USING

- [Incorporate into existing] Career Classes
- Develop new Career Course
- Youth Program staff/HS presentations
- Students use worksheet/resources throughout high school as they explore, career tests, shadowing, etc.
- Gather a cohort of school champions and teach how to use tool (workshops?)
- Continue offering support to new collaborative effort

Continuing Our Work: Priorities for 2021-22 School Year (Final Year of Current Legislative Funds)

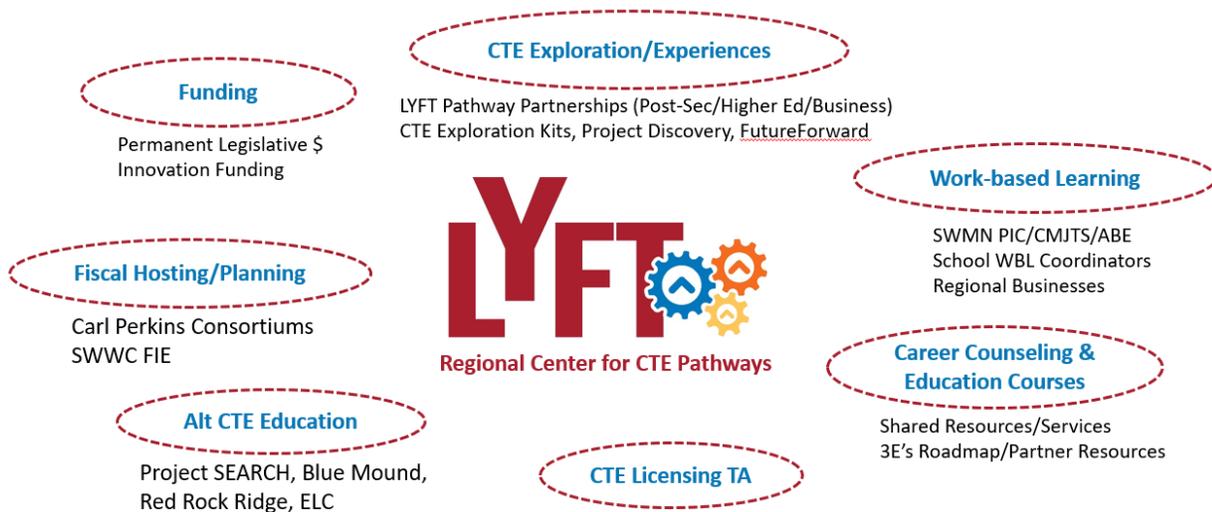
1. **Legislative Update:** Hoff shared that he and other regional stakeholders testified at the Senate E-12 Committee on March 12, 2021 in reference to Senate File 1471, authored by Weber, Dahms, Dornink, Johnson, and Duckworth. The bill would support \$4 million for FY 2022-23 for all service cooperatives for CTE efforts.
2. **Estimate Budget for New Projects in FY22:** \$199,000

The Committee was asked to reflect on priorities in small group discussions. Several ideas emerged including: Growing the CEO model in the region; Investing in FutureForward™ implementation; Employer Training/Engagement (How to engage students/invest in projects); Career Exploration -Field Trips, etc. Top themes that emerged included: **#1 – Capacity-building (Awareness, marketing, workshops, cohort sharing) and #2 – Mini Grants for LYFT Partnerships.**

FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY: LYFT Career Pathways/CTE CENTER CONCEPT

How might LYFT shift from a source of funds to a comprehensive regional service model? Tom Hoff asked the group to consider how what has begun through LYFT Career Pathways might shift from availability of funds to a comprehensive regional service model offering a continuation of this collaborative approach to providing services and resources such as those shown below.

Future Sustainability – Center Concept



The Committee through small group discussion, suggested the following:

- Centralized services for career pathways
 - Replicate the work and learn coordination in all schools
 - How to share funding sources to support more of this work
 - Technical assistance model
 - New careers course taught by team from CMJTS/PIC/SWWC
- Coordination – Leading the work collaboratively
 - Connections and catalyst between schools, colleges, business, industry
 - LYFT Advisory Consortium continue?

LOOKING AHEAD

- Through insights gained today, we will be formulating a plan for FY2022 funds
- Continuing discussions on a regional CTE model
- Next meeting – June 2021