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AGENDA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 Wednesday, September 9, 2015
 2:00 p.m.

Executive Conference Room, Administration Building
 Beaufort County Government Robert Smalls Complex
 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort

Committee Members:

Jerry Stewart, Chairman
 Gerald Dawson
 Brian Flewelling
 William McBride
 Stu Rodman

1. CALL TO ORDER – 2:00 P.M.
2. DISCUSSION / LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX
3. PRESENTATION / TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY
4. ADJOURNMENT

2015 Strategic Plan Committee Assignments
 Sales Tax Referendum Preparation
 Pepper Hall Site: Direction
 Long-term County Offices / Satellite Plan / Strategy
 Solid Waste Curbside Pick-up / Recycling (Urbanized Areas)



ADD-ONS

The document(s) herein were provided to Council for information and/or discussion after release of the official agenda and backup items.

Topic: Technical Education and Workforce Development Proposal
Date Submitted: September 9, 2015
Submitted By: Richard Gough
Venue: Executive Committee

Technical Education and Workforce Development Proposal

Technical College of the Lowcountry

September 9, 2015

Richard Gough, President



Overview

- Why TCL?
- What is the issue?
- What role can TCL play?
- What are the advantages of TCL operation?
- What are the disadvantages of TCL operation?
- What are the points of concern?
- What are the funding considerations?
- What legislation is needed?
- What timeline is needed?
- What are the next steps?



Why TCL?

- **Mission/Vision**
- **Campus/Programs/Size**
- **Service Area/Governance**
- **Accreditation/Industry Certifications**
- **Placement**



What is the issue?

- **BCSD migration of CATE programs**
- **Viability/sustainability of current model**



What Role Can TCL play?

- Prepare career ready/industry certified students in high demand fields
- Offer vocational dual-enrollment programs
- Win-win cost effective model – economy of scale and efficiencies



What are the advantages of TCL operation?

- Nationally accredited and industry-certified programs
- College credit for high school students
- College certificates
- Improved governance model
- Optimization of facilities
- Expansion of programs and course offerings
- Foster regional training
- Pathway to applied associate degree
- Program access
- Cost efficiency



What are the disadvantages of TCL operation?

- Potential non-inclusion of under-prepared students
- Remediation



What are the points of concern?

- Capital repair/improvement needs (2015 Report \$7.2m - \$7.5m)
- Dedicated/recurring operations and maintenance funding (\$1.7m annually estimated)
- Property title/ownership
- Lead-time required for accreditation, logistics, and personnel management



What are the funding considerations?

- **Need initial infusion of capital/equipment investment**
- **Commitment to recurring operations & maintenance fund stream**



What Legislation is needed to bring about organizational change?

- **Revision of 1975 agreement between Jasper and Beaufort counties**
- **Legislative governance reestablishment**



What are the next steps?

- Completion of joint ACE transition team study
- Buy-in from school districts
- Joint resolution from Jasper and Beaufort County Councils
- Buy-in of Delegation
- Passage of legislation



Questions?



Topic: Career and Technical Education Position Paper
Date Submitted: September 9, 2015
Submitted By: Richard Gough
Venue: Executive Committee

Career and Technical Education Position Paper Academy for Career Excellence

ABOUT TCL

One of sixteen colleges comprising the South Carolina Technical College System, the Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) is a comprehensive, public, two-year college dedicated to serving the diverse educational needs of Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper counties. TCL provides quality, affordable academic and technical programs leading to associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. Through these nationally accredited and industry-certified offerings, graduates are prepared for in-demand, technical careers or for transfer to baccalaureate programs.

THE ISSUE

Local discussion about Career and Technical Education (CATE) in high schools has increased with the announcement of Beaufort County School District's (BCSD) decision to bring in-house most of its CATE programs, beginning in the Fall of 2016 and concluding in the Fall of 2017. Thus, BCSD's need for a partnership with Beaufort-Jasper Academy for Career Excellence (ACE) is diminished. Without substantial BCSD involvement, ACE will likely cease to exist in its current capacity. TCL has been suggested as a possible successor organization that could support Jasper County School District's continuing need for career and technical education, expand technical course offerings in the Lowcountry, align business and industry needs within the region, increase work-based learning opportunities, provide transitions for training beyond high school to include college level courses, and offer courses that lead to industry recognized credentials in addition to a high school diploma.

THE CHOICE

The Technical College of the Lowcountry strongly advocates career and technical education for high school students. However, TCL's career and technical education programs, expertise, and experience is that of college-level curriculum. Offering high school level CATE is not within the scope of the College's mission. However, the College can offer a solution that would ensure that needs of Lowcountry high school students are met. Through TCL's dual-enrollment program qualified high school students can enroll in college level classes while still in high school. It is in this area where TCL can best meet the needs of high school students. The scenario below explains what TCL can offer and details additional benefits that could be realized from such an approach.

Richard Gough
September 9, 2015
Executive Committee

Proposed Action:

The goal is to prepare students to be career ready. It is proposed that responsibility for ACE programs, and physical plant, be transferred to TCL, giving the College authority and responsibility to establish a Regional Workforce Development Campus. In this scenario TCL would offer continued and expanded vocational/technical education to qualified students through dual-enrollment programs. As a TCL operation, college-level courses would be available to everyone within the TCL service area, comprised of Jasper, Colleton, Hampton, and Beaufort counties.

Advantages:

- **Nationally Accredited and Industry-Certified Programs.** TCL offers nationally accredited and industry certified vocational programs. These certifications are important because they validate skills and knowledge of graduates and they increase confidence in an employee's abilities. Additionally, certification can improve the probability of students' employment in their chosen career field by giving them credibility and a competitive edge over other applicants.
- **College Credit for High School Students.** Qualified dual-enrollment high school students would receive college credits for satisfactory course completion. Students would have the opportunity to graduate earlier from college, should they decide to continue their post-secondary education. Not only would this allow graduates to begin their careers sooner, it would save them money.
- **College Certificate Attainment.** Students who graduate with the requisite number of college credits would be awarded a fully accredited college certificate.
- **Cost Savings.**
 - Bringing the operation under TCL could reduce overhead costs by leveraging faculty, staff and administrative positions and through streamlining of processes.
 - TCL dual enrollment technical programs would be open to everyone in the TCL service area (Jasper, Colleton, Hampton, Beaufort counties). Potentially, lowering the per student cost of operation.
 - South Carolina Lottery Tuition Assistance program funds would be available to partially offset the cost of TCL delivered dual-enrollment courses.
 - Consolidation of resources would facilitate utilization of the best existing instructional equipment of both TCL and ACE.
- **Governance Model.** A newly reorganized campus would be governed, operated, titled, and managed under the same model as TCL Beaufort, New River and Hampton campuses. The TCL Area Commission is comprised of representatives from Jasper, Hampton, Colleton, and Beaufort Counties. The TCL Area Commission would serve as the governing board.
- **Optimization of Facilities.** TCL assumption of ACE facilities would benefit TCL as it would allow the College to relocate existing vocational/technical programs from the TCL Beaufort Campus to the ACE campus, freeing up needed space on the Beaufort campus, thereby avoiding approximately 4 million dollars cost of renovating buildings 15 and 16.

Additionally, TCL control would maximize use of facilities as college classes could be taught in evenings and weekends, not just weekday daytime as is the current practice.

- **Program Expansion.** TCL would benefit from freeing up physical space on TCL's Beaufort campus. This would allow TCL to add new programs and expansion existing programs. In some program areas, such as culinary, ACE facilities and equipment are better than TCL's.
- **Seamless Transition to Associate Degree Programs.** Students in TCL dual-enrollment programs who transition from high school to college are more successful than students who do not take dual-enrollment classes. Upon graduation from high school, students are already enrolled in the college. Additionally, they have had the opportunity to see what college courses entail without being overwhelmed by the more demanding course work and a new environment at one time.
- **Course Access.** Expand technical course offerings across the region that emphasize high skill, high wage or high demand careers. TCL dual-enrolled students could have access to additional (or advanced) college level programs not currently offered by ACE (i.e., Business Management and Information Technology, HVAC, Agri-Science, Advanced Manufacturing (welding & machining), Electronics Technology, Health Science (EMT)).

Challenges:

- **Operations and Maintenance Funding.** The current ACE budget is approximately 3 million dollars. Of that amount, approximately two thirds is sourced from the Beaufort County School District. The loss of a significant amount of funding from the Beaufort County School District from the ACE budget would be difficult for the JCSD to absorb. TCL assumption of ACE operations, facility, and programs would be contingent upon on-going County and/or state funding.
- **Capital Improvement Funding.** Approximately one half of the ACE physical plant is in need of renovation and repair. A preliminary estimate to do this work is 7.5 million dollars. However, it should be noted that this estimate does not include instructional equipment needed to meet national accreditation and industry-certification. Successful TCL assumption of the ACE facility is dependent upon funding to bring the facility up to code and industry standards.
- **Under-Prepared Students.** TCL proposes to utilize ACT WorkKeys (Bronze level) to determine student readiness for entry into most TCL CATE programs. Not all students who want to take dual-enrollment vocational programs will qualify to do so. Therefore, under-prepared school students would require remediation. State regulation prohibits TCL from providing transcribed remediation instruction to high school students. However, TCL can and does offer remediation (non-transcribed) to students who do not meet minimum placement scores. However, post remediation some percentage of students may not be able to attain a ACT WorkKeys Bronze level of readiness.

- **Timeline.** Timing is a critical component of the planning for this course of action. TCL must submit and receive approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) in order to offer credit-bearing instruction at a new site. Due to the extensive logistical, fiscal, and governance aspects of the proposed venture, the College needs two months, after agreements and attainment of fiscal commitments for submission of the prospectus to SACSCOC and six months thereafter for a reply from SACSCOC.