



Education & Industry Consortium QUARTERLY REPORT

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Report quarter: Q2 2025: April 1- June 30, 2025

Date: 7/7/2025

Date of meeting: 6/23/2025

Report prepared by: Amy Nickerson & Stacy Campbell-Domineck

Local workforce development board contact: Stacy Campbell-Domineck

B. ATTENDANCE - MEMBERS

Name		Organization	Industry or Education Org.
Amy Bratten, Ph.D., Chair	Excused	Polk State College	Education
Ana Ayala	Excused	Southeastern University	Education
Steve Campbell	Excused	S & B Metal Products	Advanced Manufacturing
Cindy Collins	Excused	RP Funding Center	Entertainment, Arts & Tourism
Michael De Marzo	Excused	Walmart E-Commerce	Logistics, Supply Chain, & Distribution
Diane Gibbs	Present	BayCare Health Systems	Health Sciences
Alex Lucio	Excused	Assure Infusions	Research & Technology
Carole McKenzie	Excused	Polk County Farn Bureau	Agri-business & Agri-technology
Rusty Mouton	Excused	South State Bank	Business Services
Orathai Northern, Ph.D.	Present	SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo & Aerospace Center for Excellence	Aviation
Andy Oguntola, Ed.D.	Present	Florida Polytechnic University	Education
Alex Rich, Ph.D. (Diane Baires)	Present	AGB Museum	Entertainment, Arts & Tourism
Linda Williams, Ph.D.	Excused	Lakeland Regional Health	Health Sciences

C. OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Amy Nickerson, Polk Vision	Charity Garcia, Polk State College	Bryan Rewis, City of Lakeland
Leann Bennett, PCPS	Samantha Linder, Polk County Public Schools	Yovan Reyes, Polk State College
Doratheia Bogert, City of Auburndale	Rachael Maldonado, Spherion Staffing	Monique Tubbs, PCPS
Warren Brown, Polk State College	Sean Mallot, Central Florida Dev. Council	Laura Webster, PCPS
S. Campbell-Domineck, CareerSource Polk	Megan Morrow, Florida Southern College	Lindsay Zimmerman, CFDC
Reba Coil, Polk County Public Schools	Laqueria Nottage, Polk State College	
Clay Cross, AJAX Paving	Carley Regan, Rita Staffing	

B. MINUTES

Education and Industry Consortium Quarterly Meeting
Monday, June 23, 2025 – 10:00 AM
Greater Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce
401 Avenue B NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881
Minutes

Ms. Amy Nickerson called the meeting to order at 10:20 A.M.

A. Welcome and Introductions

B. Roll Call by Sign-In

C. Polk Vision Internship Guide and Trifold

The Countywide Higher Education Workgroup (C.H.E.W.), a sub-committee of Central Florida Development Council and Polk Vision's Talent Pipeline Team, updated the Internship Guide in 2024. The eleven-page downloadable pdf is hosted on Polk Vision's website <https://polkvision.com/news/2021-internship-guide>.

To complement the guide, the C.H.E.W. team also developed a tri-fold brochure that summarizes key information and includes a link to the full guide. Designed for easy printing and in-person distribution, the brochure serves as a quick reference for employers. The content aligns with resources from CareerSource Polk and Polk Vision's Talent Pipeline Team to ensure internships across the county provide high-quality experiences for youth.

D. Career Source Polk Leadership Institute – Intern Orientation

Stacy Campbell-Domineck, CEO of CareerSource Polk, presented an overview of the 2025 Summer Youth Leadership Institute for Interns. She outlined the week's activities which included: Fifth Third Bank working with youth to open bank accounts, youth completed the Financial Literacy course or the Entrepreneurship Course and earned certificates. Additional Topics included budgeting, understanding W-4 forms, deductions, and taxes.

Campbell-Domineck also highlighted Day 3 of the Institute where professionals from sectors such as Advanced Manufacturing, Electric Utilities, Healthcare, Government, Technology, Education, Law Enforcement, and more shared insights on career paths, required training, and the value of internships and entry-level roles.

A panel of three interns shared personal stories, challenges, and future aspirations, offering a powerful perspective on the program's impact.

E. CareerSource Polk Worksite Agreement

Campbell-Domineck also discussed the Worksite Agreement and operational logistics for hosting over 300 interns during the summer. She emphasized the importance of legal compliance and structured support; The role of temporary Worksite Monitors, who visit sites throughout the summer to assist both employers and interns; The significant coordination required to ensure a meaningful and compliant internship experience.

Several questions were raised and addressed regarding implementation and support.

F. Collaborative Conversation

Consortium members discussed recommending to the CareerSource Polk Board the need for a standardized internship framework across Polk County. The goal is to ensure alignment with employer expectations and consistency in internship quality.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.