

Endorsement of the NCRC for Michigan's Perkins Accountability Measure

January 8, 2009

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Whereas:

- ACT introduced the **National Career Readiness Certificate** (NCRC) in October 2006 based on the three WorkKeys: Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Applied Math.
- The ACT WorkKeys database, based on detailed job analysis of real jobs, is the most comprehensive database of real workplace skills in the world.
- Data and analysis indicate clearly that the three skills measured by the NCRC WorkKeys assessments are the most common skills needed in real world jobs and the composite of these skills is a highly reliable indicator of occupational training and workplace success.
- It is widely known and accepted that high school education alone will not lead to jobs with wages sufficient to support a family. Everyone needs some level of postsecondary training.
- The proper goal for high school CTE today is to ensure that all students are prepared to succeed in their postsecondary occupational education and training.
- The Manufacturing Institute, an affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) has introduced the **NAM-Endorsed Skills Certification System (SCS)**.
- Manufacturing is critically important to our well being in Michigan and in America.
- The NAM SCS is an industry-defined, competency-based certificate system that recognizes the NCRC as the nation's most reliable foundational skills credential.
- ACT research has demonstrated that the NCRC applies equally well to other industries.
- The **Michigan Merit Exam** (MME) contains the three WorkKeys in the NCRC.
- Michigan has made great strides forward to ensure all Michigan high school students have two tickets of opportunity; that they are ready for college, as measured by the ACT scores; and ready for further occupational training and real world work, as measured by the NCRC.
- The Michigan DELEG Policy Issuance 08-28 dated June 23, 2008 makes the NCRC the foundational skills cornerstone of the Governor's **No Worker Left Behind** (NWLB) program.
- ACT's website indicates Michigan citizens have earned over 80,000 certificates.

We RESOLVE . . .

. . . to encourage and support the Department of Education of the State of Michigan to file all appropriate documents to seek and obtain approval for the NCRC to be our statewide accountability measure for all Perkins funded programs.

We call upon:

- The Michigan Department of Education to apply and obtain needed approvals
- The Career and Technical Education (CTE) directors to pass a supporting resolution
- The Michigan Community College Association to pass a supporting resolution
- All high schools and colleges to require all students to earn an NCRC as a competency-based companion credential to their diploma, certificate, or degree.
- The members of the Michigan NCRC Advocates to support the Michigan Department of Education in obtaining the needed approvals and to support high schools and community colleges with the implementation of the NCRC and the NAM SCS.

Provide feedback on this DRAFT resolution to: Bill.Guest@MetricsReporting.com or 616.430.0828 or contact Dennis Dunlap at ddunlap@edzone.net or Cindy Leyrer at cleyrer@inghamisd.org.