

**CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
AUTOMOTIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

March 27, 2007

Marvin Ploeger (**Chair**)
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Ex-Officio Members

Billy Hazzard, Department Chair
Don Mikles, Dean, Central Campus
Mike Flynn, Automotive Instructor
Dianne Dudley, Department Asst.

**CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT
AUTOMOTIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

March 27, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marvin L. Ploeger, Ideal Auto Repair, 514 E. Business Hwy 190, Harker Heights, TX 76548
Steve Cunningham, KISD Coordinator, Killeen, TX
Coley Howell, CCISD Coordinator, Copperas Cove, TX
Dan Honig, Service Manage, Cove Ford, Copperas Cove, TX

MEMBERS ABSENT:

J.T. Bowyer, Lone Star Motors, Harker Heights, TX
Ken Brown, Cleo Bay Honda, Killeen, TX
Billie Cox, Patriot Pontiac, Killeen, TX
James Eads, Connell Chevrolet, Killeen, TX
Larry Moody, Service Mgr., Doge Country, Killeen, TX
Paul Payson, Patriot Pontiac, Killeen, TX
Emil Pitrucha, Tire Town USA, Killeen, TX

EX-OFFICO MEMBER PRESENT:

Mike Flynn, Auto Instructor, CTC, Killeen, TX
Billy E. Hazzard, Dept. Chair, CTC, Killeen, TX
Dianne Dudley, Departmental Assistant, CTC, Killeen, TX

EX-OFFICO MEMBER ABSENT:

Don Mikles, Dean, Central Campus, Killeen, TX

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Billy E. Hazzard, Department Chair who welcomed the Automotive Advisory Committee on behalf of Dr. Anderson, Chancellor and Mr. Mikles, Dean of Central Campus. He thanked the committee for their continued support of the Automotive Program and participation on the advisory committee.

Mr. Hazzard stated the committee has an important role. Their role is to inform us if we are teaching the right kind of technology to equip technicians for the workforce. One change since we met last year is the addition of a new classroom. We had students in the old machine shop, back in the corner by all the transmissions. There was no air conditioning and it gets pretty hot in the automotive shop. Having the high school students in the morning and skills center students in the afternoon, we needed the extra room to accommodate the students and provide a better learning atmosphere. Students were able to go into that classroom at the beginning of the academic year.

Mr. Flynn stated he was fortunate to attend the Mobile Air Conditioning Society (MACS) Worldwide workshop in Phoenix, AZ. The focus of the conference was refrigerants used in the automotive industry. The United States usually does what the European Union has done. At present, the Asian imports are going to stay with the Refrigerant 134A. The European Union is unhappy with 134A but do not know exactly what they want to do. The position of US

manufacturers is to improve the efficiency of the refrigerant rather than replace it. Secondly, they are looking at ways to curtail refrigerant leakage problems that has been experienced with the 134A which was smaller molecule. Solutions may include tighter fittings, better compressor shaft seals, more efficient condensers, and evaporators. Another discussion was to tighten up on the licensing technicians. Mr. Flynn stated that this is good because anybody can walk into a car store to purchase Refrigerant 134A. Mr. Flynn continued by saying that we are in a constantly state of change in our curriculum with new editions of the textbooks. One of the most significant things we are going to have to take into consideration is the increased availability of hybrid vehicles. Law enforcement agencies and fire departments are getting on the band wagon as they need to know what happens when a hybrid vehicle is involved in a crash. Upon arrival at the scene, there are certain procedures to disable a hybrid vehicle which they must know and there will be brand specific procedures. We need to be looking at including the hybrid technology in our curriculum here at CTC but does not know in which particular class it will be added. Mr. Flynn concluded by saying that this would be his last advisory committee because he is retiring at the end of the academic year.

Mr. Howell said that the auto tech classes at CTC meet the needs of Copperas Cove High School. An Auto Tech II program was started this year and has been really successful for their students. They have two students in the Auto Tech II program and are learning a lot in the class. CTC has continued to prove excellent instruction in the Auto Tech I program and that some students will be enrolling in Auto Tech II next year. He stated it has been a pleasure working with Mr. Hazzard in getting the programs all working together.

Mr. Hazzard stated that one thing this year is the improved quality of students from both CCISD and KISD high schools. It is a testimony to both Mr. Howell and Mr. Cunningham and their screening process. We have had only a few minor disciplines problems. According to Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Cummings, the Auto Collision instructor, had commented that he could not remember when he had enjoyed teaching more with this bunch of young people. It reflects the work of the counselors in the respective high schools who go through their records and identify the quality students that are interested in our program. Mr. Cunningham reiterated what Mr. Hazzard had said about the quality of students. Students' records are checked for discipline before entering the program. Mr. Cunningham's policy was that if a student has two pages going into three pages of disciplinary problems then that student was not allowed in the program. This year we have had very few problems. He said that the instructors do a great job working with the students and KISD is fortunate that CTC provides this type of program for their students. He stated that Mrs. Blair, other administrators, and he are very pleased with the program that CTC offer the students. For the next year, the Auto Tech II number is low right now. To bring up enrollment for next year, the teaching of three Auto Tech I classes is under consideration. Mr. Hazzard said the ideal class size is 12-15 students and Mr. Cunningham said the maximum should be 15 students. Spring projects are not always accurate as students are lost along the way because of military transition or the TAKS test requirement. If a student failed the TAKS initially, KISD will have the student take a lab in their senior year to help pass the TAKS so that they can graduate. When it is too late for fall enrollment at CTC, some students transfer in the middle of the semester who were already in an automotive program at their previous school and have been allowed to come to class at CTC and receive a grade for KISD but not CTC. Students that have met CTC admission requirement and earn a B receive credit from CTC and high

school. A student that earns a C, will receive credit only from the high school. Most students start when they are juniors in high school. Entrance is based on their TAKS scores taken when they are sophomores.

Mr. Honig, said that Cove Ford had a couple of high school students go through their asset program and said that they were good quality. Competition in the workforce is great. They had lost employees to Iraq and Ft Hood so there is a job market for good automotive technicians.

Mr. Hazzard asked the Committee Members if there was a need to continue the program which was confirmed by the committee. The committee members completed the Annual Evaluation and Contact Information Forms for the Automotive Programs. Mr. Hazzard thanked everyone for attending the meeting and expressed his appreciation for their assistance and support for the Automotive Program. Everyone was invited to tour the facilities and see the new classroom. Several of the members went through the shops.

Dianne Dudley
Recorder/Dept. Asst.
Industrial Technology

Billy E. Hazzard
Department Chair
Industrial Technology