

1. Request that the Administration provide a report on advisable new Chapter 74 vocationally oriented programs for possible inclusion in the curriculum for the next 5 years.

Since last year's request, South High Community School has met the state's requirements for its programs in Culinary Arts, Diesel Technology, and Early Childhood Education and have been awarded Chapter 74 designation for each program. Automotive Technology will continue to function as a Perkins eligible, non-Chapter 74 program, with Marketing as a two-year career pathway for students.

North High School currently has a non-Chapter 74 career pathway for students in the area of Criminal Justice. During the upcoming school year (2019/2020), Criminal Justice, will be reorganized and revitalized to include all aspects of a Chapter 74 program with the expectation that the designation be under application the fall of 2020.

We are currently investigating the feasibility of developing a Horticulture program and Fashion Design program at Burncoat High School based on current labor market trends, as well as student interest. We will be soliciting recommendations from area businesses, as well as the expertise from those at the Tower Hill Botanic Garden in developing the plan for the Horticulture program. With Burncoat High School having the designation of an Arts Magnet School, the principal expressed an interest in Fashion Design for the school as well.

2. Request that the Administration provide recommendations, with Chapter 74 funds, for the space allocation in the new Doherty Memorial High School to provide for both equipment and technology for the Chapter 74 programs.

According to Administration, a feasibility study has not yet been requested by the MSBA for the Chapter 74 space, equipment, and technology at Doherty Memorial High School. When requested, the Administration will furnish a study complete with square footage, Chapter 74 requirements, industry requests, student interest, and workforce data at the city, state, and national level for the Engineering program. A meeting with the Doherty principal is being arranged to determine the needs of the school and possible inclusion of additional vocational/technical programs in the new building.

3. Request that the Administration pursue Entrustment Agreements and reach out to companies to provide supplemental ones to advance the needs of Chapter 74 program needs and seek support with those programs.

All Chapter 74 programs, and most CTE pathways, have advisory committees that serve to advise programs on current industry trends, equipment needs, and additions to curriculum. As programs, we rely on the expertise of these employers to advise on upcoming industry needs and to inform us of any gaps in knowledge they may be experiencing with current entry-level employees. The program advisory committee members frequently donate equipment, supplies, funds for field trips, and guest speakers to enrich student learning and promote employability. Due to the recent Chapter 74 designations, the advisory committees are newly formed and just beginning to operate as a focused teams. It is understood, as the programs are moved forward, that these committees will be rich resources for internships, as well as cooperative education placements.

4. Request that the Administration contact the Skyline Foundation regarding Chapter 74 program needs and seek support with those programs.

The Skyline Foundation is a Worcester Technical High School foundation.

5. Request that the Administration provide a report, prior to the formulation of the FY 20 Budget, regarding Chapter 74 Initiatives it wishes to pursue indicating the budgetary impact of each one.

Currently, there are not any vocational/technical initiatives that require budgetary consideration due to recent designation as Chapter 74 or because programs are in the early stages of development. Due to the increase of vocational/technical programs in the comprehensive high schools, however, small budgets for emergency repairs of equipment or supplies not covered by Perkins will be set up in each high school housing Chapter 74 programs. These budgets will be a tremendous help as the new programs are just in the process of establishing 5-year plans for Perkins and have not yet established the on-going, supportive, partnerships with members of the advisory committees that are necessary in securing sustained financial support.

6. Request that the Administration provide information on the Articulation and Certification Agreements and indicated whether there are any new ones in process at this time.

The city participates in all Massachusetts Community College Statewide Articulation Agreements that include: Drafting, Manufacturing/Engineering, Culinary Arts, Transportation, Arts and Communication, Information Technology, Early Childhood Education, Hospitality Management, Business Technology, Health Assisting, Medical Assisting, Carpentry, HVAC, and Machine Tool Technology. Additionally, Doherty Memorial High School through Project Lead the Way, has Articulation Agreements with WPI, RIT, UNH, Fitchburg State, and University of New Haven with the UMASS system currently in process. As a district, we continually seek to find academic crosswalks with college courses in order to provide students with college level opportunities that promote confidence and instill a desire to seek postsecondary education.