



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

**Business Service Outreach Team Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15, 2026, via Zoom**

ATTENDANCE

	Organization	Trustee Member	20-Feb-25	20-Mar-25	17-Apr-25	15-May-25	17-Jul-25	21-Aug-25	18-Sep-25	16-Oct-25	20-Nov-25	18-Dec-25	15-Jan-26
Thompson Ryan	Mid Penn Bank, BSOT Chair	X		X	X			X	X				
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission of the Blind						X	X					
Baer, Jessica	NJ DOL		X										
Bass, Henry	NJ DOL			X					X			X	X
Michael Butler	The Fountain Fund			X						X			
Campbell, Gabriella	NJ DOL		X	X	X	X			X			X	X
Cirri, Frank	CCOSCC	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X
Deitz, Jeff	DVRS		X										
Nicole Field	DOL											X	X
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper		X	X	X								
Lakshminarayan, Pavithra	NJ DOL							X				X	X
Lex, James												X	
Lord, Lisa	CCTS						X	X	X			X	X
Moen, Bill	Camden County College		X			X	X		X	X		X	
Perez, Irene	DVRS			X	X		X					X	X
Pomales, Nicole	Camden County College						X		X	X			
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		X	X
Terreny Robinson	NJ DOL									X			
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College		X		X	X	X		X	X			X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop			X									
Weil, Robert	Conner, Strong, and Buckelew	X	X	X	X		X	X				X	
Susan McShane	Npower				X								
Carelina Vieira-Ruiz	NPower				X								
Richelle Hardison	WDB			X			X	X	X				
Michelle Rohan	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X					
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X

Welcome

Ryan Thompson opened the meeting at 2:00 PM and requested a motion to approve minutes from the committee’s December 18, 2025 meeting. Motion was made by Jeffrey Swartz, seconded by Lisa Lord. With a majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the minutes were approved.

Workforce Development Board Regional Update

Jeffrey S. Swartz

Jeff provided updates on several regional workforce initiatives. The local workforce plan has been completed, submitted to the SETC, and is pending full board approval at the March 26th meeting. The regional plan (for the seven southern counties) is also being developed, with the group likely extending an existing contract with Triad Associates (through Cumberland County) to avoid issuing a new RFP. The regional plan process will begin soon and is due by March 31st.

He noted a growing regional collaboration among library systems, with Camden County Library establishing MOUs that allow residents to borrow books across counties, reflecting a broader trend toward regional projects.

Jeff highlighted two major workforce training initiatives: an EMT training program with Cooper Hospital and Camden County College (reviving a successful previous effort), and a regional Aircraft Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship Program across the seven counties, aimed at building South Jersey into a national hub for aircraft maintenance and power plant technician training.



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He also shared that the state would issue grants for the 2026 Summer Youth Work Experience Program, and they plan to apply again for 100 intern placements. Additionally, he mentioned the Atlantic City Electric SPARK internship initiative, focused on STEM opportunities for Camden residents and local industries, and said a flyer will be released soon.

Camden County One Stop

Frank Cirii

Frank Cirii emphasized the need for employers to provide placement slots for the Summer Youth Program as well as year-round youth and adult work experience programs. He encouraged anyone who knows potential employers to refer them and noted increased demand for adult placements. January activity included 80 workforce client referrals, 16 youth attending orientation, 81 GED tests scheduled, and 72 administered, showing continued high engagement.

He announced two major in-person job fairs at the Cherry Hill Mall Atrium on May 15th and September 11th, along with ongoing outreach and virtual efforts. Frank also highlighted the GSETA virtual AI Conference on March 19th, noting its relevance to workforce development and technology's impact on jobs.

Additionally, Frank mentioned available workstation space at the One Stop for organizations needing extra workstations. In discussion, he clarified that work experience opportunities are flexible, available year-round, open to diverse industries and locations, and coordinated through Jyi Peterson. Cooper Hospital was cited as a new employer partner, particularly valuable for healthcare career pathways.

Committee Updates

Camden County College

Derena Shafer

Derena shared that there are no major updates at this time, as the organization is still on winter break. Preparations are underway for the spring semester, which begins next week.

NJ DOL

Pavithra Lakshminarayan

Pavi shared information about upcoming quarterly meetings of the Manufacturing Alliance of South Jersey and encouraged outreach to regional manufacturers to attend. The meetings will focus on grant opportunities, best practices, and manufacturer-driven agendas, including discussion of career and technical education (CTE).

She highlighted new grant opportunities, including the Department of Education's Elevate CTE program, which promotes closer collaboration between schools and workforce teams and supports expanded work-based learning.

Pavi also noted an NJEDA grant for commercial HVAC retrofitting. Overall, the quarterly meeting will provide valuable information for employers on multiple funding and workforce development opportunities.

Camden County Technical Schools

Lisa Lord

Lisa shared that the final advisory meeting for all career programs will be held virtually on March 20th, with invitations to be sent out to partners and contacts shortly. She is also planning two job fairs, one



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tentatively scheduled for early May at the Gloucester Township campus (likely May 6) and another at the Pennsauken campus, originally planned for May 15 but potentially moving to an earlier date. These efforts are focused on connecting students with employment opportunities before graduation.

Business Community Updates

Lockheed Martin

Bob Regensburger

Bob reported that there are no new updates from the Lockheed side beyond what has already been shared in prior meetings.

Action Items by Assignee

Action Items by Responsible Party

Gabriela (Business Services)

- Meet with Boss Impact Academy in 2 weeks to explore partnership opportunities
- Send recruitment information to Debra and Gloria for advertisement
- Work with Frank to arrange in-person recruitments at the One Stop

Henry (Veterans Services)

- Send Evolution Gaming recruitment information to Debra and Gloria for wider distribution
- Follow up with Cooper Health to set up in-person recruitment at Camden One Stop
- Distribute information about the "Hire to Vet" program to Debra and Gloria

Irene (DVRS)

- Resolve insurance requirements issue for Camden County College event
- Follow up on targeted hiring event planned for April

Lisa (Camden County Technical Schools)

- Send out advisory meeting information to contacts and partners
- Finalize dates for job fairs at Pennsauken and Gloucester Township campuses
- Share Ryan's Camden Future Bankers Camp information with banking contacts

Ryan (Committee Chair)

- Reach out to potential employers for work experience sites

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Frank Cirii, seconded by Derena Shafer. With a majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

The next BSOT meeting will be held on Zoom on February 19, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

The next quarterly Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18th at 9:00 AM on Zoom. Board Members are asked to RVSP as a quorum is needed to conduct board business.

Respectfully submitted by: Debra Vaughn, Executive Assistant