# C-TAC Advisory Meeting

**Marathon Oil and Gas**

**October 1st, 2009**

**11:30-1:30 pm**

**Members** **Present:** Walt Ward, Doug Grzybowski, Wally Ward, Ruben Foster, Allan Gee, Tim Vlasak, Dan Bohrnsen, Bruce Jackman, Michael Bernard, Bob Hammer, Leanne Abendroth

**Guests Present:** Jackie Garcia (Dept. of Labor), Gail Caldwell (Career Skills Institute) and Paul Scott (Probation and Parole)

After welcome and introductions Wally Ward from Marathon Oil and Gas talked about their positive experience with the Teacher Externship Program. Dave Emery, a Physics and Geology teacher at Soldotna High School and Troy Minogue, an advanced Math teacher at Soldotna High School created a formula that calculates the volume of gas that has to be reported to the state of Alaska (Potential fugitive emissions) in case of an emergency at the facility. It the past it was estimated. Troy and Dave’s work proved to be invaluable to Marathon. All involved are interested in participating in the future.

Ruben Foster from the Department of Corrections and Adult Probation talked about the new program offered through KPC. The Corrections Program –Occupational Endorsement and Undergraduate Certificate is offered in the classroom or entirely online. For the Occupational Endorsement 16 credits are required. For the Undergraduate Certificate 31 credits are required. These programs are designed to assist the Alaska Dept. of Corrections (DOC) in meeting their recruitment and retention needs by providing the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to succeed as a Correctional Officer. More information is available at [www.kpc.alaska.edu](http://www.kpc.alaska.edu) .

Jacqueline Garcia with the Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program gave an overview on the program. The Apprenticeship program offers today’s young adults another option to achieve the requirements of different levels of certification. This is an 8000 hour program that starts when they are in high school. A high school diploma or GED is a requirement. Programs of Study with individual Career Pathways have been created for high schools help prepare a student for their chosen occupation. For information on the Programs of Study and Career Pathways: [www.matsuk12.us](http://www.matsuk12.us)

Go to Departments, click on Career and Technical Education, click on Program of Studies and it is all there. For more information on the Apprenticeship program through the Department of Labor go to: http://labor.state.ak.us/

Leanne Abendroth gave a brief account of the 2009-2010 after school construction and medical academies. These academies are funded by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development and the Denali Commission."

The Twin Village Academy in Seldovia was a success. Nanwalek and Susan B. English schools came together for a two week intensive training session. Each student participated in Carpentry, Drafting/Blueprint reading, OSHA safety training, Food Safety Certification, Construction Math, Marine Biology, Culinary Arts, Employability Skills and Native studies. This year something similar will take place.17 construction academies will take place this year at various high schools with in the Kenai Peninsula School District. Students from Homer, Nikiski, Kenai, Soldotna, Seward, Seldovia, Razdolna, Voznesenka, Nanwalek, Skyview and Nikolaesvk will be able to participate in these skill teaching academies. 4 medical academies are scheduled throughout the year and work has begun on an Intro to Criminal Justice Pathways class. A portion of each construction and medical academy this year and in the future will be on the “soft employability skills”. These skills include resume writing, communication and interviews with potential employers.

Bob Hammer president of the Homebuilders Association of the Kenai Peninsula and

an instructor for the Kenai Peninsula Construction Academy Adult program reported on the adult construction academies. The first adult session will begin on February 1st 2010 with the application deadline of January 19th, 2010. Interviews through the Department of Labor will start on January 25th, 2010. The 2nd session will begin on March 15th, 2010 with the application deadline of March 1st, 2010. Interviews will begin on March 8th, 2010. The welding classes will take place at the Workforce Development Center. Space (a building) for the plumbing, welding, carpentry, weatherization and electrical classes is needed. They are in the process of finding a location.

Dan Bohrnsen gave a list and description of the classes being offered at the Workforce Development Center and those available on-line. Building Trades, Power Mechanics and Welding Fabrication are offered 5th and 6th period. Employability Skills, Technical Writing, Computer Applications 1, 2 and 3 are all available on-line. Medical Terminology will begin second semester at Soldotna High School on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-5:30 pm. College credit is available for some of these classes. Two Certified Nursing Assistant sessions will also be offered second semester. 6 college credits will be issued upon successful completion. For more information on these classes and how to enroll go to: <http://onestop.kpbsd.k12.ak.us>.

Dan Bohrnsen defined what Mini grants awarded through Carl Perkins were and stated that they are no longer available. In the past vocational teachers would put in a request for certain materials/equipment to enhance their program or classroom. Only the specified material or piece of equipment could then be purchased with the grant funds, which proved to be a roadblock to building new programs. Career Clusters have been being created from the State of Alaska and will be used at all area high schools. There will be more flexibility with the grant monies with these in place. For more information on Career Clusters visit <http://www.alaska.edu/swacad/wp/careerclusters/pathways.htm>. The next meeting will focus on Career Clusters.

The Youth First Grant will be used to offer academies that focus on health care. Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) and Personal Care Attendant (PCA) classes will be offered throughout the year at high schools. Locations and times will be announced at each high school through newsletters, announcements, email and the newspaper.

Dan told those at the meeting that the CTSO District Conference will be on February 9th, 2010 at KCHS. Volunteers are needed. You can email Dan Bohrnsen to volunteer.

**Discussion Topics**

* **A welding simulator is available to the After School Construction Academy program and the KPBSD through the Alaska Works Program. Bob Hammer will go to Anchorage to receive training and then train CTE teachers within the school district.**
* **Construction Academies in Weatherization will hopefully begin this year. There is a great push for energy savings and classes like this will offer training in a high demand career.**
* **Bruce Jackman from Tesoro Corp. talked about the lack of interview skills in most applicants considered for positions at the refinery. A need to provide students more “soft skills” will be a main focus at the Workforce Development Center and at the Construction Academies.**
* **Brent Senette of Marathon Oil told us that the plant is producing 175-185 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. A lot of that is sold to Enstar. He felt the Teacher Externship program was very successful. He said that Marathon Oil is a clean, safe, responsible company.**

Thank you Marathon Oil for hosting our CTAC meeting!

The next meeting is scheduled for December 10th, 2010 at 11:30 am, at the Adult Corrections and Probation Office.