

2018-2019 Executive Board

Lisa Stange, President (IA)
FCS Education Program Consultant
Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 East 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
515-242-5032
Lisa.stange@iowa.gov

Kristin Vest, President Elect (NE)
FCS/ Human Services Career Field Specialist
Nebraska Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-4814
Kristin.vest@nebraska.gov

Michelle Dennis, Past President (CO)
FCS Program Director
Colorado Community College System
9101 East Lowry Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230
720-858-2291
michelle.dennis@cccs.edu

Angela LeMay, Secretary (NC)
FCS Education Consultant
Department of Public Instruction
6358 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 279699
919-807-3893
angela.lemay@dpi.nc.gov

Robert Van Dyke, Treasurer (CO)
FCCLA State Adviser
Assistant Program Director
Colorado Community College System
9101 East Lowry Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230
720-858-2330
robert.vandyke@cccs.edu

Tracie Carmel, FCS Alliance
Representative (AZ)
FCS Program Specialist
Arizona Department of Education
3300 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012
602-364-1838
tracie.carmel@azed.gov

Reno Palombit, FCCLA Representative (NC)
FCS Education Consultant
Department of Public Instruction
6358 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 279699
919-807-3904
reno.palombit@dpi.nc.gov

Alyson McIntyre-Reiger, FCCLA
Representative (IN)
Adancing Connections
812.243.3539
amcintyrereiger@gmail.com

August 26, 2018

RE: Ensuring Pathway Quality: A Guide to Pathway Intervention resource

On behalf of the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS), we would like to share our concerns about a recent communiqué from New Skills for Youth initiative of which The Chief Council of State School Officers is listed as a partner. The resource is entitled “Ensuring Pathway Quality: A Guide to Pathway Intervention.”

Our concerns relate to how the discipline of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) is referenced in the resource. As a discipline, Family and Consumer Sciences supports several of the 16 career clusters that are a part of the National Career Clusters Framework developed by Advance CTE. In addition, many in-demand pathways are supported by the discipline of FCS. The resource speaks to FCS as being a pathway in and of itself. It uses FCS as an example of a “pathway” that needs to be phased out and it also uses the term “home economics” to describe a pathway.

Family and Consumer Sciences has been our discipline name for 24 years and we are neither a cluster nor a pathway. Using the language of a former decade serves to perpetuate an antiquated myth of what our discipline represents as a part of Career and Technical Education today. Unfortunately, we have found that there are some states that do not understand what our discipline encompasses as far as cluster, pathways, and careers and we feel the language used in the resource further confuses that understanding. States have an interpretation of programs in the FCS discipline that is unique to their labor market needs.

Our other concern about labor market needs is how data is framed for the reader. For example, data from the U.S. Department of Labor for early childhood careers on Onetline.org, indicate high need. How is low demand being defined? Are they only looking at percentage? As an example, “Childcare workers” has a projected need that is 5-9% growth, but that translates into 189,100 jobs. Many other “high demand (percentage)” jobs are only a few thousand jobs, but those are the “pathways” that are being pushed to “replace” other pathways that already have high numbers of employees. A similar situation can

2018-2019 Executive Board

Lisa Stange, President (IA)
FCS Education Program Consultant
Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 East 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
515-242-5032
Lisa.stange@iowa.gov

Kristin Vest, President Elect (NE)
FCS/ Human Services Career Field Specialist
Nebraska Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-4814
Kristin.vest@nebraska.gov

Michelle Dennis, Past President (CO)
FCS Program Director
Colorado Community College System
9101 East Lowry Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230
720-858-2291
michelle.dennis@cccs.edu

Angela LeMay, Secretary (NC)
FCS Education Consultant
Department of Public Instruction
6358 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 279699
919-807-3893
angela.lemay@dpi.nc.gov

Robert Van Dyke, Treasurer (CO)
FCCLA State Adviser
Assistant Program Director
Colorado Community College System
9101 East Lowry Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230
720-858-2330
robert.vandyke@cccs.edu

Tracie Carmel, FCS Alliance
Representative (AZ)
FCS Program Specialist
Arizona Department of Education
3300 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012
602-364-1838
tracie.carmel@azed.gov

Reno Palombit, FCCLA Representative (NC)
FCS Education Consultant
Department of Public Instruction
6358 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 279699
919-807-3904
reno.palombit@dpi.nc.gov

Alyson McIntyre-Reiger, FCCLA
Representative (IN)
Adancing Connections
812.243.3539
amcintyrereiger@gmail.com

be observed with the outlook for human services and social services careers that are serviced by the Family and Consumer Sciences discipline.

Do you have any additional information regarding this resource? Can we ask for it to be reworked and/or clarified? We struggle with the lack of identification and understanding of the value of Family & Consumer Sciences within Career and Technical Education and only wish to be sure that when the discipline is referenced, that it is correctly identified. The role of the FCS discipline in CTE programming provides two functions; 1) provide programs aligned to specific pathways, and 2) provide employability skills foundational to all pathways. In both instances, the work of FCS is being leveraged to meet labor market needs, when implemented with quality and fidelity.

We believe revising the “Ensuring Pathway Quality: A Guide to Pathway Intervention” guide to accurately depict Family & Consumer Sciences Education can help CTE state leaders in fostering more collaborative and constructive conversations with our 27,000+ Family and Consumer Sciences secondary educators and more than 3 million students that participate in programs nationwide.

Thank you, in advance for your attention to these issues. We would be happy to discuss this further in person or via a conference call.

Best regards, on behalf of the NASAFACS Board of Directors and members,



Lisa Stange, MA Ed
NASAFACS President 2018/19