

RockATOP Career Pathway

Meeting Notes

November 2, 2017



Members in attendance: Loui McIntyre, Freda Howell, Kris Brooks; Teresa Phillips, Melissa Mericle, Lydia Craddock, Beth Smith, Christy Barham and Ken Scott

1. What is RockATOP?

Rockingham Apprenticeship and Technical Opportunities partnership (RockATOP) is comprised of two distinct yet related work groups. There is an Apprenticeship work group that directs the Apprenticeship component of RockATOP and then there is our group that directs the “Technical” component of RockATOP. This is the group that designs career pathways for the students of Rockingham County. We intend to develop a computer aided design pathway (CAD) this year.

2. What is Computer Aided Design?

We discussed viewing Computer Aided Design in its most broad sense; defining CAD as any software program that will allow an individual the opportunity to design and model ideas. CAD software greatly accelerates the process of transitioning ideas from one's head and into the real world. This was discussed as a critical skill that exists within the 21st Century.

3. Why Computer Aided Design?

We considered CAD skill as foundational. We viewed CAD as an instance where the arts and technology overlap. We discussed the importance of creative thinking and the idea that “the 21st Century will be in need of artists that think like engineers and engineers that think like artists.” We discussed the importance of aesthetic appeal even within some of our most technical fields.; and discussed the industrial trend toward “mass customization” as opposed to “mass production.” We also discussed that foundational classes in CAD might engage some of our most dis-enfranchised students and may open the door to any number of very diverse “design” oriented fields once they are engaged in developing such transferable skills.

4. What types of careers require CAD Skill?

Careers that require CAD skill include- Architecture; Engineering; Graphic Design; Interior Design; Apparel Design; Web Design; Machining; Animation; and Product Design.

5. What opportunities to develop CAD skill currently exist in high school? RCC?

Please see the work sheet that is attached to the email sent with this document. I have included an outline of required high school classes and have left open spaces for the inclusion of foundational CAD/Design classes; spaces for classes specific to a particular design field; and spaces for a few RCC classes that might be available for students to take while still in high school. This is not an exhaustive list, but I hope it is enough to get you thinking about the possibilities. Give it some thought and we will pick back up with our discussion at this point in January.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3l8LYZPv44I	(CNC)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyHJTz5tbyk	(Marvelous Designer)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nlLJnruYVA	(Blender)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEmjAr2xyyg	(AutoDesl Mya)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lA1IZ-5ikA0&t=163s	(CGI)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPj1ICymxH0	(Sketchup)



