

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD-RI  
ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 19, 2006**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: Jack Warner, Mario Bueno, Joseph MarcAurele, Robert Nangle  
George Nee, Robert Paniccia

Members Absent: Armeather Gibbs

Staff Present: Michael Koback, Mavis McGetrick, Marsha McDowell

Others Present: Johan Uvin, Linda Katz, Dr. Brenda Dann- Messier/Dorcas Place

With a quorum present, Chair Warner called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

A motion was entered to approve the minutes of the October 24<sup>th</sup> Adult Education and Literacy Committee.

**VOTE:** R. Nangle moved to approve, seconded by George Nee. All approved.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda item, Accountability Framework was addressed by Co-Chair Johan Uvin. He stated that the Accountability Framework Workgroup was one of 13 Workgroups formed to come up with ideas in terms of how to make the Adult Education and Literacy Education system more effective. Dr. Dann-Messier was introduced as the other Co-Chair for this workgroup. Mr. Uvin directed the Committee's attention to the last page of the handout which listed the proposed measures for the framework. Basically, there are three types of measures for the building of the framework; the participation of the students, the programs, and the system/state.

Overview of Cornerstones of the Accountability Framework Workgroup:

- if people are not developing skills, the system is not achieving objectives
- entered employment, do we help people find jobs and help them retain employment?
- enrollment in postsecondary education and high school credentialing
- student satisfaction and engagement
- does the system provide a sufficient number of access points throughout the state to begin to look at how services are being rendered?
- efficiency, what is the cost for a positive outcome?
- workforce stability
- professional development, how many teachers are being trained, what are the impact and results of the training?
- for programs, how does a program do in improving peoples' skills and at what cost?

Dr. Dann-Messier's comment was that ultimately, a program which the Adult Education Department contracts with, will have to meet the needs of the participants with the outcomes being satisfactory.

Chair J. Warner then discussed the Request For Proposal (RFP) process. Instead of an Annual RFP, a three year RFP is being developed where programs can count on some degree of funding from one year to the next. The trade off for that is more accountability. The Professional Development Center is also intertwined as it is a way of improving the capacity of a program to improve results.

J. Uvin gave background on the development of the three-year grant award RFP. He stated that all the agencies that had some relationship with Adult Education came together for a meeting less than a few months ago to discuss the coordination and consolidation of all funds. An interagency staff team was charged to identify and work on the issues to accomplish this objective. Last week, he stated, the interagency team finished working through all the issues that stand in the way of a interagency RFP that combines multiple funding streams. This RFP is encouraging programs to strategically plan their services together before they submit. \$7.5 million will be available with services to begin July 1, 2007. \$500,000 will also be available for technical assistance and performance bonus awards. The RFP is slated to be released January 16, 2007.

Chair Warner extended his thanks to J. Uvin and his work group and B. Dann-Messier for their hard work on the development of a threeyear RFP with accountability built in the system.

The next item to be addressed on the agenda was the Interagency Demonstration Project. Chair J. Warner stated that the Governor's Workforce Board had awarded \$150,000 to Adult Education for a project that would integrate a number of different agencies to come together in a region, with the goal to produce more positive results for clients. Those agencies include, in addition to Adult Education providers, the Community College of RI, the Department of Labor and Training, and the Department of Human Services. The Newport region was selected because the demographics of that area are such that they are in need of the integration of these services, coupled by the fact that the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) has just opened a new campus there. The Newport campus would be a great location for the services to be housed.

Johan reported on the launch of the Professional Development Center. He stated that Rhode Island College has been selected as the lead agency in a three agency partnership consisting of Rhode Island College, CCRI, and a non-profit organization, World Education, in Boston which actually operates the staff development system in Massachusetts. The three deliverables to be produced this year are:

- development and implement orientation for teachers
- launch the Professional Development Center tied to the content standards
- Work with each individual program and its staff to get a sense of what their needs are, in order to develop a statewide Professional Development Plan for the next few years.

Johan also discussed the unified RFP for a Youth Employment Program this summer, being issued by the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) and the two local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) which will generate a number of high quality proposals.

With no other business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha McDowell