

**Governor's Workforce Board RI  
Adult Education & Literacy Committee Meeting  
September 29, 2011**

**Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members present: Chair Ray Di Pasquale, Mario Bueno, Robin Coia  
George Nee, Robert Nangle  
Committee Members excused: Paul MacDonald  
RIDE Staff present: Philip Less, Sharon Lee, Kim Chouinard, Nancy Sheridan  
GWB Staff present: Lisa D'Agostino, Nancy Olson, Dan Brown, Angelo  
Dafonseca, Maureen Mooney  
Others Present: Judy Jones, Poverty Institute; Malcolm Baxter, BIS;  
Robin Smith, CCRI  
Location: RIDLT Conference room 73-2

**Call to Order**

Chair Di Pasquale called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He mentioned that one of the agenda items pertains to adult education funding for FY2011-12 and acknowledged the difficult economic times and the challenges associated with this. He indicated Philip Less would be discussing the specifics but emphasized the importance of the continuing collaboration among RIDE, RIDLT, labor, higher education and the GWB during these times.

**Minutes of 5/5/11**

Chair Di Pasquale asked for a review of the meeting minutes of 5/5/11 for the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Adult Education Committee. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

**VOTE:** G. Nee moved to approve. R. Nangle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**Preliminary Annual Data Report for FY 2010-11**

Chair Di Pasquale asked Dr. Philip Less to provide an update on the annual data report for FY 2010-2011.

P. Less referred to the first handout entitled "RIDE Adult Education Performance- Preliminary Data". He stated the performance period was from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 and pointed out that all but 3 targets were met. In almost every case the national averages were either met or exceeded. He clarified that each years' targets are based on the previous years' actual performance.

P. Less reviewed the handout entitled "Adult Education Enrollment and Performance Trends 2006-2011. He noted that although enrollment declined, the educational gains continue to grow as evidenced in the chart on the handout. There was a general discussion on the number of adults not being served, the waiting list for adult education services and the impact of reduced funding on the adult education provider services.

P. Less referred to the handout entitled "EFL Performance Review – Rhode Island" and reviewed the core indicators and related data including grade level equivalents, student proficiency levels, goals and completion rates and the 2010-2011 core indicators. He explained

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the weighting process and the formula associated with it. A discussion followed on the data methods utilized by the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), the RI Department of Education (RIDE) and the adult education providers. Chair DiPasquale noted the importance of sharing this data and encouraged further discussion and collaboration. P. Less agreed and indicated he would follow up on this with the Commissioner.

### **Funding for FY 2011-12**

Chair Di Pasquale asked P. Less to report on adult education funding for FY 2011-12. P. Less referred to the handout entitled "RIDE Adult Education FY2011-12 Reductions and Program Elimination Impact". He reported that in the last legislative session there was a change in both the RI Department of Education (RIDE) and GWB budgets which left \$2.3M less in the Job Development Fund (JDF) for board initiatives. He noted that \$2.3M was taken from the JDF and allocated to RIDE for adult education programs. This was due to a 2.3M reduction in General Revenue Funds for RIDE. P. Less mentioned that \$3.5M previously approved by the GWB for adult education programs brings the total funding to approximately \$5.8M. P. Less indicated that DLT/GWB and RIDE have been working towards a solution which involves a compromise on the \$2.3M. P. Less reported that RIDE has moved forward and notified adult education providers that there is not funding available for all of the programs. He referred to the handout entitled "RIDE Adult Education FY2011-12 Reductions and Program Elimination Impact" and explained in more detail the reductions in funding.

### **Goals for FY 2011-12**

Chair Di Pasquale asked P. Less to present information on the adult education goals for FY 2011-12. P. Less referred to the handout entitled "Progress on the Priority Areas from the Governor's Workforce Board". He briefly reviewed each goal which included: expanding virtual learning and distance learning; implementing networks of adult education providers; increasing transitions to postsecondary education and training; establishing minimum qualifications for teachers; establishing a performance based funding formula; including adult education in multiple pathways for youth; and implementing managed enrollment and cohort management.

### **Other Business**

Chair DiPasquale noted there was a scheduling change for the Adult Education & Literacy Committee indicating the next meeting would be held on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. He noted the 2012 meeting schedule is included in the meeting packet.

With no further business, Chair Di Pasquale asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: R. Nangle moved to approve. R.Coia seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney