

**Governor's Workforce Board RI
Adult Education & Literacy Committee Meeting
May 29, 2013**

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members present: Chair Ray Di Pasquale, Mario Bueno, Robert Nangle, Paul MacDonald, George Nee
Committee Members absent: Robin Coia
RIDE Staff present: Philip Less,
GWB Staff present: Rick Brooks, Elizabeth Jardine, Dan Brown
Others Present: Irena Nedeljkovic, EPI, Malcolm Baxter, BIS; Jill Holloway, Sophie Tan, ILSR, Bob Delaney, ILSR
Location: RIDLT Conference room 72-1

Call to Order

Chair Di Pasquale called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He provided an overview of the agenda.

Minutes of 5/29/13

Chair Di Pasquale asked for a review of the meeting minutes of 5/29/13 for the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Adult Education Committee. He asked if there were any corrections or deletions. Chair DiPasquale asked for a motion to approve the minutes

VOTE: Mario Bueno moved to approve. George Nee seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Adult Education Investments and Performance

Chair Di Pasquale asked Dr. Philip Less to provide an update on Adult Education's investments and performance. Dr. Less provided three handouts that reviewed the cost/program, cost/enrollee, and performance results. He noted that the average educational gain statewide is 48%, and these results put Rhode Island in the top two performance quartiles nationally.

Fiscal year 2011-2012 is the first year RI met all of its targets both in the One-Stop System and in Adult Education. As a result, Rhode Island is one of 15 states to receive a WIA Incentive Grant. In New England, Rhode Island and New Hampshire received this grant. Rhode Island will receive \$668,000 to be split between RIDE and DLT. Dr. Less will schedule a meeting with David Tremblay to discuss the grant application paperwork. The money may be spent on allowable expenses according to WIA regulations. Adult Education is planning to use its share of the grant funds to update its technology infrastructure, to improve the digital literacy skills of its students, and to purchase equipment.

Federal WIA Title II Grant – Due to sequestration, Adult Education will receive \$119,000 less in its federal WIA grant award in 2012-2013.

Quarterly Reporting Format for FY 14

Elizabeth Jardine presented the new performance report for adult education. The FY 14 and 15 Biennial Employment and Training Plan prioritized four key areas: employer engagement, career pathways, workforce readiness, and public system integration. The GWB will begin to track all investments in accordance with these four priorities. In addition to these goals, adult education will track GED attainment and EFL increase. Additionally, adult education programs will seek ways to align with work experience activities funded by the GWB.

Computer-Based GED and Implications for RI

Starting on January 2, 2104, the 2014 GED Test will be new and strictly computer based. This is not the same as being online, so the GED Test cannot be taken online or at home. A candidate will need to go to a testing center and take the test in a proctored setting and through a secure computer server.

CCRI will have two testing center sites and is considering a 3rd site in the East Bay Collaborative. There will be seven testing centers throughout the state. The 2014 GED Test will be aligned to the Common Core State Standards (similar to the K-12 PARCC assessment), so the test will be more difficult in 2014. The cost will go from \$55.00 dollars to \$120.00 dollars. Since this will be a totally different test, adult education organizations will have to change their teaching methodology to accommodate the change.

Action Item:

George Nee would like Dr. Less to break out the data by funding source for the JDF-funded programs. He would like to make sure we are not paying an enormous amount of money on rent for these organizations. \$3.5 Million was allocated for Adult Education last year from Job Development Funds.

George commented that he would like to have these organizations on this list work together due to the overhead cost. For example: Newport Family Literacy and Newport Skills Alliance are under East Bay CAP. This is an example of where two programs can be under one CAP organization.

Mario Bueno commented that he would like to see us take a look at the average cost per student from other states. He would like us to also take a look at Adult Education Program ranges of cost per student through the community colleges.

Adult Education Funding Endorsement

(Mario Bueno recused himself from vote for the \$3.8 million endorsement)

Increase in the next budget from \$3.5 million to \$3.8 million in the Governor's next budget for RI.

Vote: Paul MacDonald moved to approve. George Nee seconded the motion.
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Adjournment:

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

VOTE: P. MacDonald moved to approve. M. Bueno seconded the motion.
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown