



Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Monica Dzialo, Chair, ORS	Chris Tanguay, DLT
Heather Singleton, RI Hospitality	Adrienne Newsome, Stepping Up
Kim Chouinard, RIDE	Jen Giroux, RIC
Steve Kitchin, NEIT	Lori DiPina, DCYF
Donna Murray, DLT-LMI	Rick Brooks, GWB
Kate Greenwell, DLT-LMI	Amelia Roberts, GWB
David Tremblay, GWB	Pat Pelletier, GWB
Brian Dursi, RIMTA	Philip Less, RIDE
Linda Katz, EPI	Alexis Stern, UWRI
Carmen Ferguson, DHS	Doug Tingle, OPC
Judith Fox, BHDDH	Sharon Miles, CCRI
Laura Carbone, Stepping Up	Lisa Tomasso, TPC-Recovery Works
Liana Fenton, Middletown Schools	Ken Findlay, DOC
Linda Larsen, URI Transportation Center	Carlos Ribeiro, WPGRI

1. Introduction

Chair Monica Dzialo welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Kristen McKenna who is the Governor's Workforce Board's new Career Pathways Manager. Chair Dzialo then asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Kristen McKenna – New Career Pathways Manager

Kristen presented a brief overview of her experience and collaborative work in Massachusetts.

- Started thinking in terms of Career Pathways while working at the RI Labor Institute with stackable certificates in a program that was implemented in a mobile education unit
- Collaborated on an ABE program to specific Career Pathways
- 47% of students transitioned to post secondary education
- Went on to Bristol Community College developing 20 new Career Pathways
- Was the most successful college in MA - had more enrollments under the TAACCCT Grant than other CC
- Connective tissue that makes Career Pathways work are the ability to have case management counselors and the ability to use data to help make informative decisions

- Developed robust prior learning assessment program to lead adults who had some foundation of prior experience, credits or a certificate leading up to the next stackable certificate
- The BCC had an excellent collaboration with the One Stop taking students from the One Stop and putting them into the next Career Pathway

Kristen expressed her thoughts on what there is To Do in Rhode Island

- Best practices mapping
- Real articulation from one certificate to the next
- Counselor training
- Stackable certificates using the Prior Learning Assessment
- Creating an on-line comprehensive tool that helps adult learners, counselors, and college students learn what a career pathway is

3. Presentation – Rhode Island Hospitality Association

Heather Singleton who is the Chief Operating Officer of the RI Hospitality Association and the RI Hospitality Education Foundation discussed ProStart, a program designed and developed by the National Restaurant Association.

- Two-year program for high-school or career and tech students
- Overall food service management center
- There are approximately 120,000 ProStart students across the United States, Guam and military bases in Germany and Japan
- There are five Career and Tech schools in Rhode Island currently offering the ProStart program and two additional schools about to start offering the program.
- Students are required to earn 400 hours of work experience
- Students have to pass a Level I exam, a Level II exam, perform 400 hours of school time and pass 52 ProStart Skills Competencies. The student will then receive a ProStart Passport with scholarships and articulation agreements to 60 colleges and universities of their choice.
- There is also a ProStart National Competition where students can earn additional scholarships.
- The next ProStart National Competition is in April, 2016 in Dallas, TX
- RI schools will send two teams, a culinary team and a management team
- Heather described details of the competition and showed slides of the judges and students' presentation boards from past competitions.

Questions presented:

Question: Why are students in the competition limited to preparing in an environment with no running water or stove and just a butane burner?

Heather's **Response:** To even out the playing field, many schools do not have more than that for instruction. Judges are looking at team work, communication, knife basic skills.

Question: Is this presented as an On-Line course.

Heather's **Response:** Yes, you can do either or.

4. Capacity Building – ABE Update – Kim Chouinard

- Provided update on the Moving Pathways Forward (MPF) for Adult Education
- At last meeting Part II of the State Plan presented, excellent feedback collected
- Feedback incorporated and an aggressive Plan for 2015 and 2016 developed
- MPF Project builds career exploration and multiple points of contact for ABE students - Screening, intake and orientation will have multiple points that include CP discussions, CP work and CP contact
- Working closely with Real Jobs RI in terms of Planning Grants and Innovation Grants
- New adult learner will begin immediately working toward career exploration as part of their orientation and screening in addition to GED or foundational literacy and math skills
- Will be updating the group and working on this each quarter.

Question: Why is the technology used in the Community Colleges not adequate enough to meet Career Pathways needs?

Response: More work to do in this area; let the powers that be know that this is an issue because there might be a need for investment in this area.

Question: How can middle and high school be the pipeline to help this?

Response: Working with the on-line tool and working with our counselors and aligning it there and the CTE programs and career coaching.

5. On-Line Tool – Kristen McKenna

- Presented Virtual Career Network designed by DOL and American Association of Community Colleges – still being built
- Healthcare is pretty built out – they are working on Green and Transit Jobs
- The tool can be found at <https://www.vcn.org/index.php>

6. Overview of State Workforce and Education Alignment Project (SWEAP) – Andy Van Kleunen and Bryan Wilson – National Skills Coalition

- Working with a group in RI to do a better job of giving state policy makers a sense of how different programs can do a better job together; Adult Ed, CTE, Higher Ed, traditional job training, Welfare and other support services.
- Challenge is aligning such programs while trying to move individuals to some type of middle skilled career
- How do we get these programs to work together
- How do we get policy makers to see these programs as a system
- Use data as a tool to get these programs together on the same score card
- Will more effectively and consistently measure:
 - Who is getting skills
 - What credentials are they earning
 - What are their employment outcomes
 - How are those people progressing across those programs over time
 - How do all of these outcomes align with the jobs available here in the RI labor market, particularly middle skill jobs

- National Skills Coalition is working with four states on this project: Rhode Island, California, Mississippi and Ohio and three National Foundations are investing in this system: JP Morgan Chase Foundation, Ford Foundation and USA Funds Foundation

Bryan Wilson described the three types of data tools:

- Dashboards – shows policy makers using common metrics performance results of workforce and education programs; educational credential outcomes, employment rate outcomes and earning levels
- Pathway Evaluators – look at pattern of program participation, services within programs and outcomes. Information can be broken down by demographic groups.
- Supply and Demand – Are the supply of individuals being trained in the state sufficient to meet the demand

Question: Do you incorporate Corrections into this process?

Response: We have not but it is something that can be talked about.

Question: What are the rolls of the independent colleges and universities in your analysis?

Response: We like to include them – we think they are an important part of the supply, we encourage states to be able to collect data on those students.

Question: I-Best Model is expensive having two teachers in the classroom – how do we overcome the issue with funding

Response: Is more expensive but the results are much stronger

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Pelletier