



Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Monica Dzialo, Chair, ORS	Karisa Tashjian, RIFLI
Ruth Gobeille, Polaris MEP	Shana Bloom, Stepping Up
Kim Chouinard, RIDE	Jen Giroux, RIC
Sharon Lee, RIDE	Vanessa Cooley, RIDE
Jen Cornwell, RIMTA	Rick Brooks, GWB
Brittany Morrison, GWB	Amelia Roberts, GWB
David Tremblay, GWB	Pat Leduc-Pelletier, GWB
Jen Cornwell, RIMTA	Philip Less, RIDE
Chris Matteson, RIMA	Dan Toussaint, RIMA
Carmen Ferguson, DHS	Doug Tingle, OPC
Kim Stack, URI	Robin Smith, CCRI
Laura Carbone, Stepping Up	Carol Giuriceo, RI STEM Center
Liana Fenton, Middletown Schools	Claudia Staniszewski, LISC
Linda Larsen, URI Transportation Center	Jill Holloway, PDC
Carlos Ribeiro, WPGRI	Lisa Tomasso, TPC – RecoveryWorks
Peter Woodberry, CCRI	Ken Findlay, DOC

1. Introduction

Chair Monica Dzialo welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Real Jobs RI

Planning grant solicitation released for up to \$25,000 to develop an implementation proposal

- Part of Governor Raimondo's workforce initiatives to identify new sectors or expand on Industry Partners that already exist
- Expand efforts, specifically, demand-driven and employer-driven through sector intermediaries
- Way to strengthen career pathways for each sector

3. Presentation on best practices in Career Pathways

- 34 interviews so far
- Reviewed the statewide resources or tools in place and highlighted the best practice areas or programs and description of each area:
 - Career Exploration
 - Work Readiness/Talent Assessment
 - National Credential Focus
 - Contextualization of Content
 - Non-credit to Credit Bridge/Articulations

- Employer Engagement/Internships
- Not a comprehensive list of programs. Stakeholders that still need to be engaged including K-12 and CTE
- Discussed additional best practices in Career Pathways
 - Cohort-based/Mentoring – programs such as RIC’s Learning For Life that provide mentoring
 - Flexible Scheduling and Locations – RIFLI is an example that leverages resources in RI’s library system
 - Multiple Entry and Exit Points – Stepping Up
 - Wraparound Services – critical to building out a career pathway
- Questions or Comments
 - Data of the number of participants and outcomes – consistent metrics needed to measure the success of the programs
 - Career Pathway evaluator – evaluation tool in development that resources will be utilized for
 - Stronger focus on industry-specific case management and employer case management
 - How to make this available to others not in the room
 - Bridges for limited-English population
 - Technology in distance learning
 - Alignment of curricula and tests
 - Financial support to access programs
 - Necessity of strong leadership within the organization

4. Working Groups – policy, programming, capacity building (identifying best practices)

- **Policy**
 - Employer Engagement – articulation or relationship between comprehensive high schools and CTE
 - Challenges – RIDE adopting accredited or recognized credential, organizing the employers to focus on students coming out of school
 - Case management for employers
- **Programming**
 - Employer Engagement – making sure private sector works with the public sector, school system
 - Shared Standards of Competencies among educational providers and employers
- **Capacity Building**
 - Identifying neutral convening agencies that are disconnected from this work to connect and work with those that are currently not a part of this group
 - Data-hub and Resource-hub to track participant outcome data

5. Memorandum of Understanding:

- Asked each agency representatives to start think about specific bullet points of responsibilities to start signing
- Changes have been made based on feedback from last meeting