

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 174
NOVEMBER 14, 2013**

Ms. Creigh H. Agnew called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. at North Seattle Community College in Seattle. The following Board members and officers were present:

Lori Province for Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor
Beth Thew, Representing Labor
Lee Newgent, Representing Labor
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business (Vice Chair)
Gary Chandler for Don Brunell, Representing Business
Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government
Jim Crabbe for Marty Brown, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Dale Peinecke, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Kathleen Lopp for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Allison Clark for Brian Bonlender, Department of Commerce
Andres Aguirre for Kevin Quigley, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Vice Chair's Report

Ms. Creigh H. Agnew welcomed Ms. Marlena Sessions, CEO of the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County. Ms. Sessions provided opening remarks and an overview of the key work of the WDC. She noted that there is a focus on youth, the workforce system, leading work through sector strategies, and serving as a think tank for workforce development.

Motion 13-174-01

Mr. Lee Newgent moved to adopt the September 26, 2013 minutes. Mr. Dale Peinecke seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis provided an update on the National Governors Association (NGA) Chair's Initiative focused on the alignment of economic and workforce development. NGA asked Washington to take the lead with helping shape the program. Ms. Papadakis presented at the two forums held in Connecticut and New Mexico. NGA and Governor Fallin are putting together a policy academy and are choosing six to 10 leading edge and learning states. Together, they will strategize and plan for a state and national approach to the issues.

Ms. Papadakis also discussed the Make it in America grant that was awarded to the Workforce Board. The grant is a combined fund award from the U.S. Department of Commerce and other agencies. The Make it in America grant targets states which have not made progress toward economic recovery and brings manufacturing into the communities or stabilizes existing facilities. Innovate Washington is the lead applicant and currently does not have the matching funds for the grant. The grant, which would

impact 25 designated counties with high unemployment and low income, is for \$2.3 million and requires \$700,000 in matching funds.

Ms. Papadakis also shared about a grant opportunity from Maryland. Maryland has requested virtual technical assistance, which would likely include a two-day presentation, and customized sub services. Ms. Beth Thew stated that this is a good idea and opportunity to learn. Mr. Dale Peinecke expressed concern about staff taking on additional work. The Board came to a general agreement to submit a proposal and then receive an update once there are more details.

Adult Education Plan Review

Ms. Kathy Cooper provided an overview of the Adult Education Plan. Ms. Cooper noted that multiple stakeholder and student meetings were held in order to prepare the plan. Mr. Bryan Wilson discussed the plan's consistency with *High Skills, High Wages*. Ms. Beth Thew questioned if the plan addresses private career schools or apprenticeships. Ms. Cooper indicated that the plan is limited to programs that receive federal dollars.

Motion 13-174-02

Mr. Lee Newgent moved to adopt the draft Adult Education Plan. Ms. Kathleen Lopp seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Proclamation

Ms. Creigh H. Agnew presented a proclamation to Mr. Bryan Wilson for his service as Deputy Director at the Workforce Board.

Motion 13-174-03

Ms. Creigh H. Agnew moved that the Board adopt said proclamation. The motion passed unanimously.

Common Core State Standards

Mr. Justin Montermini presented a brief history of the development of the Common Core State Standards, key positive aspects, and the limitations of the standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment. Mr. Montermini also shared the draft letter that Representative Kathy Haigh requested about the Workforce Board's perspective of the Common Core State Standards. Mr. Gary Chandler expressed concern about getting away from students who want to pursue vocational training. Although there are a lot of family-wage jobs in the trades, not all students want to attend a four-year institution. Mr. Chandler indicated that the goal is to keep focused on career readiness, not only an emphasis on academics. Mr. Lee Newgent shared that these standards should be referred to as the Washington Standards instead of the national term. Ms. Kathleen Lopp noted that there is still a need for alignment with technical standards.

Motion 13-174-04

Mr. Lee Newgent moved have the Board write a letter in support of the Common Core State Standards. Mr. Gary Chandler seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Core 24: Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements

Mr. Justin Montermini shared information about the Core 24: Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements. Mr. Montermini shared that this is a prime issue under consideration by the Career Education Opportunities Legislative Task Force, of which Ms. Eleni Papadakis is a member. The Core 24 requirements look similar to those of the entry requirements for large universities. A major concern with these requirements is that if students adhere to the Core 24, there may not be enough flexibility to attend Skills Centers or take career and technical education (CTE) classes. The State Board of Education has called for CTE course equivalencies in their legislative agenda.

Ms. Beth Thew requested a list of talking points to discuss. Board members requested a special meeting prior to the start of the Legislative Session to establish a policy platform and advocacy strategy.

Workforce Development Council Certification Process

Ms. Terri Colbert explained the Workforce Development Council Certification Process. The process has remained mostly unchanged, with the exception of one minor modification. Board diversity will be addressed during the planning process instead of the committee recertification process.

Motion 13-174-05

Mr. Lee Newgent moved to adopt the certification criteria, process, and timeline for the certification of Workforce Development Councils. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Workforce Development Council Plan Approval

Ms. Terri Colbert shared the Southwest Washington and the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Councils' plans. Southwest Washington and Benton-Franklin requested to delay their plan approvals until November in order to provide them with the opportunity to strengthen their local strategic plans. The plan submitted by the Benton-Franklin WDC was originally reviewed in the spring and no further changes were made. It was noted that Benton-Franklin explored diversifying their funding. The Southwest Washington WDC used the additional time to refine and clarify their goals, strategies, and implementation timelines with the input of more than 125 individuals during interviews, focus groups, and surveys.

Motion 13-174-06

Mr. Lee Newgent moved to recommend to the Governor approval of the Benton-Franklin and Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council plans. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Private Vocational Schools Act: Proposed Agency Request Legislation

Ms. Nova Gattman provided an update on the Proposed Agency Request Legislation that was originally presented at the July Workforce Board Retreat. Ms. Gattman shared that board staff researched new schools that would be added to the agency's licensing and regulatory authority under

the proposed bill, and found that the number of schools is less than initially thought. Board members requested to receive a copy of the new version of the bill.

Education System Health Indicators

Mr. Bryan Wilson briefed the Board for the Education System Health Goals conference call. ESSB 5491 identifies six statewide indicators of educational system health. The two indicators most directly related to the Workforce Board includes: 1) the four-year cohort high school graduation rate, and 2) the percentage of high school graduates who, during the second quarter after graduation are either enrolled in postsecondary education or training or are employed, and the percentage during the fourth quarter after graduation who are either enrolled in postsecondary education or training or are employed. The Workforce Board joined the State Board of Education by conference call to discuss the education system indicators and goals. Due to technological issues, the Workforce Board ended the call and had a separate discussion about the topic. The Board members agreed to create a list of suggestions to be emailed to the State Board of Education. Ms. Beth Thew asked about what the ultimate goal is—education or to get a job? Ms. Lori Province questioned the emphasis. Ms. Eleni Papadakis indicated that the emphasis will be determined on how the goal is framed. She noted that if the goal is decreasing the achievement gap for minority and disabled students then policy would be crafted to support more investments in helping those students succeed.

Board meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.