

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 157
September 22, 2011**

Ms. Cindy Zehnder called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:07 a.m. at Clover Park Technical College, Lakewood, Washington. The following Board members and officers were present:

Cindy Zehnder, Chair

Beth Thew, Representing Labor, Vice Chair

Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor

Amy Johnson for Mike Hudson, Representing Business

Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business

Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government

Charlie Earl, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)

Kathleen Lopp for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Paul Trause, Employment Security Department (ESD)

David Stillman for Susan Dreyfus, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Chair's Report

Ms. Cindy Zehnder welcomed the Board and staff to Clover Park Technical College and introductions were made. She reported on a meeting with Bill Symonds at the Business Roundtable and thanked staff for their assistance with her "Op Ed" presentation. Ms. Zehnder also spoke about the upcoming Retooling Washington's Workforce Forum to be held on October 6, 2011, and encouraged Board members to attend the annual Chairs' Breakfast.

Motion 11-156-01

Ms. Beth Thew moved to adopt the June 16, 2011 minutes. Mr. Mark Mattke seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 11-156-02

Ms. Beth Thew moved that the Workforce Board adopt the proposed 2012 meeting schedule. Ms. Creigh H. Agnew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis reported on the two American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grants that were monitored by the Department of Labor with good program and fiscal reviews. She mentioned that there is some concern regarding meeting outcomes, especially due to impacts of the economy. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked for an update on the progress of the ARRA grants at the November Board meeting.

Ms. Papadakis also reported on two Requests for Proposals (RFP) recently by the Workforce Board, one to redirect ARRA Healthcare funds and one for Workplace-Based Distance Learning. She also gave an update on the Pegasus Project. Ms. Creigh H. Agnew inquired about the timing of the Boeing 737 decision. Mr. Charlie Earl commended Ms. Papadakis for her leadership and work and acknowledged the Workforce Investment Act 10% (WIA) investments of the Governor. Ms. Kathleen Lopp indicated that the K-12 system was also focusing on aerospace and manufacturing.

Mr. Paul Trause raised three issues: 1) It's not just about Boeing; 2) Employer hiring practices are varied and disparate; and 3) State and federal budgets are reeling. Ms. Zehnder is interested in using the aerospace exercise to explore the role of business contributions to workforce development and developing a compact on training with employers. Mr. Mark Mattke asked about the Trade Act Community College grant opportunity that the Department of Labor just announced.

Retooling Washington's Workforce

Mr. Paul Trause and Mr. Bryan Wilson presented the material for Tab 2. Mr. Trause shared information about unemployment insurance exhaustees. Mr. Wilson mentioned the third workgroup has heard a series of presentations on local efforts to coordinate effective outreach to employers. Some of the common themes of these presentations are: good teamwork with Economic Development Councils, the use of single account executives, and the use of Salesforce.com as a MIS tool. The Workforce Board staff is collecting state and local materials used in business outreach for posting on the Retooling Washington's Workforce website.

Ms. Cindy Zehnder commented on what is happening in the regional areas and how communities are coming together. Mr. David Stillman was curious about how this effort impacts the Department of Social and Health Service clients.

Mr. Bryan Wilson presented the latest dashboard results for On-the-Job-Training and Employer Outreach. Ms. Zehnder inquired on other states' efforts to achieve business integration and wants the Board to think through employer engagement and identify the value-add for employers. Mr. Trause announced that the Microsoft contract was renewed and talked about some other tools in use. Mr. Tim Sweeney provided highlights of the upcoming October 6, 2011, Retooling Washington's Workforce event.

Opportunity Internships Review and Update

Mr. Mike Brennan and Mr. Wes Pruitt presented the material for Tab 3. In the 2009 Session, the Legislature passed 2SHB 1355 establishing the Opportunity Internship Program (OIP) that is designed to build educational and employment pipelines for low-income high school students in high-demand occupations in targeted industries. The Legislature, however, provided no funding for the OIP in 2009. In order to implement the program for the 2009-2010 school year, the Workforce Board contracted with the Washington Workforce Association (WWA) to utilize federal "high-demand scholarship" monies that were intended for a similar purpose. Monies were provided to eight consortia to implement the program. During the 2010-2011 school years, the WWA administered the high-demand scholarship monies, awarding monies to four consortia. In 2011, the Legislature passed E2SHB 1599, which established the Pay for Actual Student Success (PASS) Program, of which the OIP is a part. The Legislature appropriated funding for PASS, a portion of which was allocated for OIP by OSPI. Workforce Board staff are now working on selecting local consortia to receive those new funds. There was comment about ways to link OIP and other programs with I-BEST.

I-BEST Review and Update

Mr. Jon Kerr and Ms. Kathy Cooper presented the material for Tab 4. Mr. Charlie Earl introduced Mr. Jon Kerr, the new Adult Basic Education (ABE) Director. Mr. Kerr and Ms. Kathy Cooper had a panel of students of I-BEST programs currently underway throughout the state. Academic I-BEST Student - Lower Columbia College - Mandy Pastor, Professional-Technical I-BEST Student - Clover Park Technical College - Braulio Rodriguez, Pre-College Student - Tacoma Community College - Crystal Turpin, On Ramp Coordinator - Highline Community College - Linda Faaren, ABE and Workplace I-BEST Administrator - Clover Park Technical College - Carmen Croppi, WDC Partner - Seattle/King County WDC - Peter Cavanaugh. There are expanded models including on-ramp pilots that shorten and focus preparation of lower-skilled adults for existing I-BEST programs; developmental education pilots that compress levels of English and math preparation; and workplace programs that serve the needs of low-skilled, working adults who struggle to access campus-based courses. All of these innovations maintain key I-BEST components of contextualization, team teaching, and focus on preparation for the workforce.

Microsoft IT Academy Presentation

State Superintendent Randy Dorn, Kathleen Lopp, and Keith Loeber from Microsoft presented the material for Tab 5. The 2011 Legislature appropriated \$2 million for FY 2012 and \$2 million for FY 2013 to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for a statewide Information Technology (IT) Academy program sponsored by Microsoft. This public-private partnership will provide educational software, as well as IT certification and software training opportunities for students and staff in public schools throughout Washington. Ms. Beth Thew asked about the universal opportunity, including students without home computers. Ms. Cindy Zehnder asked for a report back at a future meeting on the partnering of this effort with Retooling Washington's Workforce and Employment Security Department online efforts.

Youth Unemployment

Mr. Wes Pruitt presented the material for Tab 6. At the May Board meeting this year, the Board established a Youth Unemployment Committee to further develop programs and policies to address the unemployment issue for youth and young adults. The Committee consists of Board members Mr. Mike Hudson, Ms. Beth Thew, Mr. Lutz Ziob, and Mr. Mark Mattke. Mr. David Stillman and designee Ms. Lori Province (Washington State Labor Council) joined the Committee after the July retreat. In addition, designees Betty Klattenhoff, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and Peter Lahmann, Washington State Apprenticeship Coordinators Association are Committee members. The Committee is very supportive of the need for a comprehensive system of career guidance, such as Navigation 101. Ms. Creigh H. Agnew asked about the baseline survey on work based learning for youth and Mr. Jeff Johnson inquired about how the staff will go about studying the existing information, assessing best practices, and conducting the analysis.

Motion 11-156-03

Ms. Creigh H. Agnew moved that the Workforce Board formally request that the Association of Washington Business and the Washington State Labor Council partner with the Workforce Board in support of a youth unemployment initiative as set forth in Attachment A. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed with a small wording amendment. Mr. Paul Trause abstained from voting.

2012 Legislative Requests

Ms. Cindy Zehnder discussed the materials in Tab 7. The operating agencies in the workforce development system annually prepare policy and budget proposals for consideration by the Governor and the Legislature. Proposals are formally analyzed and acted on by the Workforce Board each year, with recommendations from the Board sent to the Governor and Legislature. The Agency Board members did not have anything to report out at this time.

Adjourned 2 p.m.