

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 129
September 25, 2008**

Mr. David Harrison called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. at University of Washington Parrington Hall, Seattle. The following Board members and officers were present:

David Harrison, Board Chair

John Aultman, for Terry Bergeson, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Martin Bean, Representing Business

Rick Bender, Representing Labor

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

Mike Hudson, Representing Business

Karen Lee, Employment Security Department (ESD)

Janet Lewis, Representing Labor

Lynnae Rutledge, for Robin Arnold-Williams, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Kris Stadelman, Representing Local Government

Beth Thew, Representing Labor

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Welcome and Chair's Report

Mr. David Harrison welcomed the Board to the University of Washington and introduced the newest Business member to the Board, Mr. Martin Bean. Mr. Bean is General Manager of Worldwide Education Strategy Products and Solutions for Microsoft. Mr. Harrison mentioned that the Workforce Investment Act Reauthorization would be a good agenda item for the November Board meeting and asked staff to work with the Interagency Committee to prepare recommendations.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Eleni Papadakis shared a recent conversation she had with Ms. Gerri Fiala's staff with the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Ms. Fiala visited the Board at the August retreat. Ms. Fiala thanked the Board and offered her support for increasing focus on Career Pathways. Ms. Papadakis also spoke about the increased focus on employers in discussions of the Workforce Investment Act reauthorization. Ms. Papadakis shared that the Lumina Foundation has invited the Workforce Board to submit a concept paper on workplace based digital learning. Ms. Papadakis acknowledged the Economic Development Commission (EDC) work and Mr. Rick Bender's role on the EDC Board as Co-Chair of the workforce committees. Ms. Sue Ambler CEO, Workforce Development Council, Snohomish County shared that Washington state was involved in the Mentors' Program and that our state is the only state with three mentors. Ms. Papadakis mentioned the agency's move toward the 4/10 work week. Members of the Board discussed the opportunities and the downsides. Mr. Bender was supportive of the pilot plan. Ms. Lee expressed support of the move. Mr. Mike Hudson questioned the level of cost effectiveness. Ms. Lynnae Rutledge suggested an alternative site for the legislative staff on Fridays on the Capitol campus during session. Mr. Walt Wong mentioned the Governor's office has asked that we track performance measures regarding the pilot program. Ms. Papadakis assured the Board that the Leadership team would monitor the impacts on the staff as we move forward.

Motion 08-129-01

Mr. Mike Hudson moved to adopt the July 9 & 10, 2008 minutes. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 08-129-02

Ms. Thew moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt the 2009 Board Schedule. Ms. Janet Lewis seconded the motion. Ms. Thew suggested the 2009 Board schedule reflect the 2009 conference dates. The motion passed with changes.

Improving Youth Outcomes

Mr. Wes Pruitt and Mr. John Aultman presented the materials for Tab 2. Mr. Pruitt told the Board that the 2007 Legislature created a Joint Task Force on Basic Education Finance to “review the definition of basic education and all current basic education funding formulas” (SB 5627). The Task Force is to “develop options for a new funding structure and all the necessary formulas, and propose a new definition of basic education.” The Task Force is to complete its work by December 1, 2008. Mr. John Aultman compared some of the optimism to the former School to Work initiatives. Mr. Bender cautioned the Board of the problems with the perception of STW and channeling students. Ms. Ruttledge cautioned OSPI as they look at all students for Navigation 101 to keep in mind students with special education needs. Ms. Ruttledge offered to work with Mr. Aultman in this area. Ms. Lee asked about parent involvement and low-income families. Mr. Martin Bean mentioned the difficulties of at-risk students and answering the question “Who am I?” Ms. Thew asked about the connection between the Basic Education Finance Task Force and Building Bridges. Mr. Bender mentioned the importance of having an impact at an earlier grade level. Mr. Jim Crabbe asked about the fiscal impact and governance issues between state and locals. There was discussion of a Summer Youth Employment program and the need for more resources. Mr. Bean mentioned the increased usage of online tools for youth.

Workforce Board 2009-2011 Biennial Budget Request (Action)

Mr. Wong presented the material for Tab 3. Mr. Wong shared with the Board that the 2009-2011 Operating Budget Instructions requires a two-part submission of materials to the Office of Financial Management (OFM). The first part consists of the agency’s strategic plan and performance measures. At the July Board meeting, the agency’s 2009-2013 Strategic Plan, containing goals, objectives, strategies, and performance measures, was adopted and subsequently submitted to OFM on July 11, 2008. The second part of the required submittal identifies the budget request for the coming biennium and contains the proposed two-year budget and accompanying activity inventory and any monetary decision packages. The agency is not requesting any new funding with this submittal. Mr. Hudson inquired if there was a decrease in funding.

Motion 08-129-03

Mr. Bender moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board approve the 2009-2011 Biennial Budget. Ms. Karen Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

High Skills, High Wages (Action)

Ms. Madeleine Thompson presented the materials for Tab 4. Ms. Thompson announced the final draft of *High Skills, High Wages* has been edited since the July Board meeting to reflect the information received at public forums during July and August, and input from various stakeholders via phone, email and letters.

Ms. Lee inquired about veteran's issues for those beyond immediate release from service. Mr. Bender mentioned the need to be more inclusive of existing joint management/labor partnerships. Ms. Thompson agreed to make the additional changes. Ms. Lynnae Ruttledge thanked Ms. Thompson for her hard work on *High Skills, High Wages*. The Board applauded her efforts.

Motion 08-129-04

Mr. Bender moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt *High Skills, High Wages 2008 - 2018: Washington's Strategic Plan for Workforce Development*. Mr. Jim Crabbe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Skills for the Next Washington (Action)

Mr. Bryan Wilson presented the materials for Tab 7. Mr. Wilson explained that as recommended by the Board in its 2006 review of the workforce development system, *Washington Works*, in 2007 Governor Gregoire directed the Board, the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED), and the Economic Development Commission to "develop a plan to support coordination at the state and regional levels, with a special emphasis on key economic clusters." During the past year, our three agencies have worked with other agencies and stakeholders at the state and local level to develop such a plan. *Skills for the Next Washington* is the result of that collaboration. At the July meeting the Board directed staff to rewrite the last part of the draft paper in order to clarify the Board's recommendations. In addition, language was added to reflect the role of CTED in economic development planning. There was discussion on the recommendations to authorize the planning role of the state's 12 Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) in statute. Ms. Stadelman mentioned a lack of consensus among the WDC's due to concerns about possible unfunded mandates but clearly indicated her support. Mr. Crabbe clarified that there were 11 Centers of Excellence.

Motion 08-129-05

Ms. Lewis moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt *Skills for the Next Washington*. Mr. Aultman seconded. The motion passed.

Workforce Board 2009 Policy Requests (Action)

Mr. Wilson, Ms. Carolyn McKinnon and Ms. Thompson presented the material for Tab 8. Mr. Wilson mentioned the process that requires the Workforce Board to formally submit any agency bill or budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for approval. These are the three bill requests being proposed for submittal to OFM:

- Coordinating Workforce and Economic Development (Skills for the Next Washington)
- Clarifying Workforce and Economic Development Terms
- Changing Timelines on the State Strategic Plan for Workforce Development

Motion 08-129-06

Ms. Lee moved that the Workforce Board hereby approves the submittal of proposed legislation for the *Skills for the Next Washington*. Ms. Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 08-129-07

Mr. Hudson moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt the proposed legislation Clarifying Workforce and Economic Development Terms. Ms. Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion 08-129-08

Mr. Crabbe moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt the propose to change timelines on the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2008 Board Retreat Follow-up: Selecting a Strategy for Development (Discussion)

Mr. Wong presented the material for Tab 5. Mr. Wong stated that on August 13, 2008, members of the Workforce Training and Education Board conducted a summer retreat. At the retreat the Board talked about its effectiveness as a Board and improving retention strategies for participants in the Workforce Board system. The Board discussed options of an email update between IC meetings and Board meetings especially during legislative session. Ms. Papadakis and Mr. Harrison will discuss strategies. Ms. Papadakis led the Board through an exercise at the retreat where Board members were asked to imagine that the year was 2013 and Washington state was very successful in its workforce development efforts and to reflect on that success. The consensus of the Board was to work on a “GI Bill for Washington Workers,” and a “New American Dream” as long-term projects. Mr. Crabbe asked if these two suggestions fell in line with *High Skills, High Wages*. There was discussion that most of the work ahead could be tied to the new 10-year plan of *High Skills, High Wages*. Ms. Stadelman suggested a focus on “Preparing Career Counselors” and “Transforming Correctional Systems” as other projects. There was good discussion from the Board on how to accomplish these efforts and the Board agreed that all the suggestions were worth exploring. Mr. Harrison and Ms. Papadakis will discuss the next steps for the Board and provide an update at the November meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.