

**Governor's Workforce Board RI
Adult Education & Literacy Committee Meeting
February 10, 2011**

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members present: Chair Ray Di Pasquale, Mario Bueno, Robin Coia, George Nee
Committee Members absent: Paul MacDonald, Joseph MarcAurele, Robert Nangle
RIDE Staff present: Philip Less, Kim Chouinard, Nancy Sheridan
GWB Staff present: Lisa D'Agostino, Nancy Olson, Dan Brown, Maureen Mooney
DLT Staff present: Charles Fogarty, Jen Buck, Laura Hart
Others Present: Judy Jones, Poverty Institute; Malcolm Baxter, United Way volunteer; Jill Holloway, Professional Development Center; Robin Smith, CCRI; Sharon Miles, CCRI
Location: RIDLT Conference room 72-1

Call to Order

Chair Di Pasquale called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of 11/4/10

Chair Di Pasquale asked for a review of the meeting minutes of 11/4/10 for the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Adult Education Committee. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

VOTE: R. Coia moved to approve. M. Bueno seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

RIDE Staff Update

Chair Di Pasquale welcomed and introduced Dr. Philip Less, the newly hired Adult Education Administrator at the RI Department of Education (RIDE). Dr. Less provided an overview of his background and experience. He explained the organizational structure of the Division of Accelerating School Performance, lead by Andrea Castaneda and the Office of Multiple Pathways, led by Sharon Lee. Dr. Less introduced Kim Chouinard and Nancy Sheridan who are Adult Education Specialists. Committee members requested an updated Adult Education Office/RIDE organizational chart for distribution to committee members.

Annual Performance Data (7/1/09 – 6/30/10)

Chair Di Pasquale asked Dr. Less to report on the annual performance data from 7/1/09 through 6/30/10. Dr. Less discussed the chart entitled "Adult Education Enrollment 2009-2010. He indicated this chart details the proficiency levels of beginning, intermediate, advanced ESOL and secondary education and lists the percentage of learners for each level based on a total of 6,497 students.

Dr. Less reviewed and discussed the federal performance measures against proposed 2009-2010 targets, 2009-2010 actual performance and proposed 2010-2011 targets. He compared the targets with the national averages noting that RI ranked above the national average in many cases. There was a general discussion around the information presented, funding for adult education, remedial education and adult learners finding and retaining jobs after exiting adult

education programs. As a result of the discussion surrounding workforce issues, there was a request for a publication from DLT's Labor Market Information Unit entitled "Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues 2010". Also requested was information on adult education funding. N. Olson stated that there is a funding history chart available that was prepared by D. Anthes from RIDE. She indicated it will be forwarded to committee members.

Progress on Priority Areas from "Building the Critical Links"

Chair Di Pasquale asked Dr. Less to provide a progress report on priority areas from "Building the Critical Links". Dr. Less reviewed priority items such as expanding virtual academy and distance learning; implementing networks of adult education providers; increasing transitions to postsecondary education and training; establishing minimum qualifications for teachers; establishing a performance based funding formula; including adult education in multiple pathways for youth and adults; implementing managed enrollment and cohort management; and designing proficiency-based stackable certificates.

Other Business

With no further business, Chair Di Pasquale asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: M. Bueno moved to approve. G. Nee seconded the motion.
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney