

**Governor's Workforce Board RI  
Adult Education & Literacy Committee Meeting  
March 26, 2012**

**Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members present: Chair Ray Di Pasquale, Mario Bueno, Robin Coia  
Robert Nangle, Paul MacDonald, George Nee  
RIDE Staff present: Philip Less, Kim Chouinard, Nancy Sheridan  
GWB Staff present: Rick Brooks, Dan Brown, Maureen Mooney  
Others Present: Judy Jones, Economic Progress Institute; Malcolm Baxter,  
BIS; Robin Smith, CCRI; Jill Holloway, RI Adult Education  
Professional Center  
Location: RIDLT Conference room 73-2

**Call to Order**

Chair Di Pasquale called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He provided an overview of the agenda.

**Minutes of 12/15/11**

Chair Di Pasquale asked for a review of the meeting minutes of 12/15/11 for the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Adult Education Committee. He asked if there were any corrections or deletions. Since there were none, Chair DiPasquale asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**VOTE:** P. MacDonald moved to approve. R. Nangle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**Adult Education Funding Recommendation \$3.5M**

Chair Di Pasquale asked Dr. Philip Less to present the adult education funding recommendation for FY13. P. Less referred to two handouts "Rhode Island Department of Education – Adult Education" and "Adult Education Funding". He reviewed the services provided by the adult education programs of the 36 local agencies and noted that the majority are community-based organizations. He mentioned specialized programs such as GED preparation classes, the National External Diploma Program assessments, and the "Transition to College and Careers" program and contextualized instruction. He presented results of adult learners from the academic year 2011-12 noting the number enrolled and average cost per student, instructional hours, educational gains, number of GED credentials awarded, unemployed learners who obtained employment and the number of GED graduates who entered postsecondary education.

In discussing the need for adult education services in Rhode Island, Chair DiPasquale provided an overview of the remediation services provided by the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI). He stated that the costs of remedial education are not included in the adult education costs noted in the chart provided by Dr. Less. A lengthy discussion followed on topics relating to this including college readiness, testing, and the new GED changes to be instituted in 2014. Of primary concern were the work readiness needs of the employers and training the workforce to meet these needs.

With no further discussion, Chair DiPasquale asked if there was a motion to approve the adult education funding recommendation for FY2013 in the amount of \$3.5M.

**VOTE:** G. Nee moved to approve. R. Nangle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Rick Brooks commented that this vote is a matter of process since the funding for adult education programs has been put into the Governor's budget. He indicated the recommendation made by this committee would be brought before the next meeting of the Strategic Investments and Evaluation Committee.

### **Adult Education State Plan Extension**

Chair Di Pasquale asked P. Less to provide an overview of the 2012-2013 Extension of Rhode Island's Adult Education State Plan. P. Less explained that RIDE is submitting its revisions to the adult education plan which includes performance targets. He noted the sections of the plan relating to needs assessment, annual evaluation and performance measures. He reviewed the handout entitled "Rhode Island Adult Education Proposed Performance Targets" which compared the national averages of the performance measures to 2010-11, 2011-12 and the proposed 2012-13 targets. He stated that the proposed 2012 -13 targets are equal to or exceed the national average. P. Less noted the recent organizational chart included in the plan which reflects the line of authority from the Commissioner of Education to the State Administrator of Adult Education.

### **Performance Based Funding Formula Update**

Chair Di Pasquale asked P. Less to provide an update on adult education's performance based funding formula. P. Less referred to the handout entitled "Adult Education's Performance Based Funding (PBF) Formula" and provided background information on the establishment of the formula. He noted that the current Request for Proposals (RFP) for adult education for the period 2011-2015 began using the PBF in FY2012. P. Less stated that the PBF formula was never fully approved and the PBF workgroup had stopped meeting, but was reconvened in January of 2011. In February of 2012 the PBF workgroup approved their final version of the PBF formula. He noted that the PBF formula was presented to the Adult Education Advisory Council, the Adult Education Leadership Institute and now the GWB Adult Education and Literacy Committee.

Paul MacDonald suggested it would be helpful to have a list of the agencies providing adult education services along with the measure of their success. A question was asked about the committee and/or board approving the PBF as part of the process. It was discussed and decided this was not necessary however George Nee asked for the committee to be kept updated on any changes with the formulas as it affects the Job Development Fund (JDF).

### **Adjournment**

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney