



Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Monica Dzialo, Chair, ORS
Shana Bloom, Stepping Up
Donna Welch, Westerly HS
Jill Holloway, RIAEPDC
Linda Katz, EPRI
Kristie Costa, RI Hospitality
Linda Larsen, Senedia
Laura Carbone, Stepping Up
Vanessa Cooley, RIDE
Kim Stack, URI
Doug Tingle, OPC
Kim Chouinard, RIDE
Lisa Tomasso, TPC
Rick Brooks, GWB

Philip Less, RIDE/Adult Ed
Chris Tanguay, DLT
Brian Dursi, RIMTA
Sharon Miles, CCRI
Deborah Anthes, DHS
Chris Selwyn, Tech Collective
Pat Pelletier, GWB
Robin Adams, RIAEPDC
Chris Bousset, RIFLI
Carlos Ribiero, WPGRI
Jenifer Giroux, RIC
Sharon Lee, RIDE
Ken Findlay, DOC
Alexis Stern, UWRI

1. Introduction

Chair Monica Dzialo welcomed everyone to the meeting then asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Governor's Vision for Career Pathways

Heather Hudson, Education Policy Advisor to Governor Raimondo was introduced to the committee. Heather stated that the Governor's goal is to get Rhode Islander's back to work and not to leave anybody behind. Ms. Hudson said that Real Jobs Rhode Island is a good start and commented how RJRI tries to ensure groups like adult education and youth initiatives move into jobs that meet employer demand. Ms. Hudson took questions and asked for thoughts on what the committee feels needs to be done.

3. Policy – Discussion about metrics

The committee discussed the importance of being able to measure effectiveness. Some committee members offered their thoughts on areas of concern and how difficult it is to measure some of their work and career pathways:

- Activities and mapping – how do we know they are effective
- In DOC, do not have data beyond release date
- Establish a measurement along the way - TANF is a temporary program
- Can touch one individual many times
- How do you feel you are connecting with employers, how can you connect better?
- Employers speak to multiple like-agencies and don't have the time

- Comments from Focus Groups – Employers want improved communication between state agencies; to be able to get through on the phone or an email
- Health care – stackable credential entry level – sometimes are vague and how it transfers – can be better
- Regarding the importance of RJRI – there is some uneasiness about clients not being attractive to employers or programs might be left behind – partners may be left behind. The days of preparing them and hoping it is good enough are waning
- K-12 – make sure career coaching and counseling are out there and have an idea of career and industry needs
- Guidance counselors try to steer all students to college – difficult to create the idea that not every job requires a four year degree
- Have to start judging schools in a different way
- Parents want to hear that their child is going to college
- Employers don't necessarily need college educated workers

Kristen McKenna concluded the discussion with the thought that every time a connection is made it has to have a result.

4. CPAC Member Presentation, RIDE-CTE

Vanessa Cooley from the RI Department of Education gave a presentation about Pre-K-12 CTE and stated that the CTE student gets the same math, English and sciences classes as other schools. Ms. Cooley stated that when a student finishes a CTE program they are smart. CTE is not a minority program or for low grade students but for ALL students. Most students in CTE are white/gender mix/income mix/ racial mix and CTE students are more engaged in their communities. Ms. Cooley stated that the time to be talking to kids about careers is K-6 and we should be listening. Ms. Cooley mentioned some of the high points of CTE: students have a chance to job shadow, CTE coaching leads to career exploration, the retention of CTE students is higher, and the graduation rate of CTE students is higher while the career change of CTE students is less.

Several comments followed Ms. Cooley's presentation:

- Need to market the system as it is being built to get to parents
- How do parents learn about CTE? – Counsellors
- CTE centers go to schools
- Word of mouth and in the schools
- Public education has never promoted itself
- Do open houses in the CTE Centers – Advertise in papers such as the Valley Breeze

5. Capacity Building – Online Tool Presentation

Jill Holloway did a brief presentation on the RI Resource Hub followed by a Q & A

- Tracked Way to Go RI
- Employ RI is key
- Purple was who were not being served
- Talking to employers about getting computers in their break rooms
- Doc Website – this is a tool for training opportunities – to find out what is out there
- Geographic locations – this has been a huge help

6. Program Development – Moving Pathways Forward Update – ABE

Kim Chouinard gave a brief update on ABE Moving Pathways Forward work

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Pelletier