

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board
Education Committee Meeting

March 1, 2010

Present:

Deanne DeGraff
Scott Helland
Barb Jeanetta
Bill Lowe
Jane Nicholson

Absent:

Craig Anderson EA
David MacKenzie
Dean Shawbold

Staff/Guests:

Mary Jo Gardner, WIB Staff
Kate Raleigh, WIB Staff

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:41 p.m.

Approve January Minutes

Motion made by Bill Lowe with second by Scott Helland to approve the January Education Committee minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

Discuss Education Committee Operating Rules

This item has been tabled until the next meeting.

Approve Education Committee Work Plan

Mary Jo went through the work plan, created as a result of various discussions held with this committee. Members made suggestions to modify the work plan slightly, adding Adult Basic Education and adding Transition Services to K-12 education under Education/Training options. The concept of I-BEST classes were discussed- this idea was developed in Washington State and combines Adult Basic Education with career and technical training in one class.

Members modified the committee's charge to specify the importance of education at all levels- the updated charge is:

The **Charge** of the Education Committee includes ensuring the community is aware of and engaged in local workforce initiatives. Education at all levels plays an important role in workforce development, including developing customized training to serve businesses in need of skilled workers, preparing youth for successful careers in demand industries, and providing adult basic education services for the community.

Motion made by Bill Lowe with second by Deanne DeGraff to approve the Education Committee Work Plan as amended.

Motion carried.

Review WIB 2010 Priorities

The Education Committee reviewed the WIB's 2010 strategic priorities, focusing on the tactics that fall under the Education Committee's charge. Additionally, Mary Jo presented the idea of the WIB having an Issues Awareness group through the CAO/Workforce Committee that will focus on topics of interest to the WIB.

Define Education Committee 2010 Priorities

Mary Jo asked the committee what action they wanted to take first, or what other information they needed to make that decision. Discussion included:

- How is the I-BEST model going to be used for the Pathways Out of Poverty grant? What can the committee do to promote the use of I-BEST?
 - o The WIB's Healthcare Initiative is modeled in this way- the students have an ABE teacher 50% of the time and a Medical Coding teacher 50% of the time.
 - o These instructors could be invited to discuss this model with the Education Committee at a future meeting.
- Saint Paul education partners received a FastTRAC grant for training Adult Basic Education students for careers in renewable energy.
- WIA Reauthorization may be discussed in the legislature this year, though it is unknown if action will be taken during this session.
 - o There have been many white papers published on this subject that the committee may review- e.g. NAWB and Innovator's Network. Mary Jo will distribute these to the members.
 - o It may be a good time to learn about the possible reauthorization.

The committee will first examine the Healthcare Initiative. Mary Jo will invite speakers for the next Education Committee meeting regarding the education aspect of the initiative. Members can let Mary Jo know if they have specific questions about the project. Other areas for exploration include the I-BEST model, ABE Renewable Energy FastTRAC project, WIA reauthorization, and the intersection of the Pathways Out of Poverty and Blue Green Alliance grants.

Membership

This item has been tabled until the next meeting.

Other

None.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Next Meeting- May 3, 2010