



Workforce Development Board
County of Middlesex

LITERACY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 12, 2017
550 Jersey Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
9:30 a.m.

Attendance

Present: Gloria Aftanski, Roseann Bucciarelli, Ana Class-Rivera, Jasmina Dizdarevic, Myrna Garcia & Yasmin Hernandez-Manno

Staff & Guests: Kevin Kurdziel, Craig Schlosser, Shamara Gatling-Davila; Melissa Bernstein, Tracey Montani and Meenakshi Nalalagappan.

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 am. Gloria asked everyone to introduce themselves and gave the committee time to look over the minutes from the last meeting.

Review of Minutes from October 18, 2017 Meeting

There were no concerns with the minutes. Roseann made the motion and Tracey seconded the motion for approval of the minutes. Kevin, Craig, and Jasmina all abstained from voting. The minutes are to be filed as is.

Overview of the Talent Networks/ Talent Development Centers

The One Stop Operator, Craig Schlosser, and Kevin Kurdziel defined and gave great details about the Talent Networks and Talent Development Centers. The Talent Networks started about 6-7 years ago. The talent Network currently has six (6) key growth industries: Healthcare, Transportation Logistics Distribution (TLD), Advanced Manufacturing, Retail Hospitality and Tourism, Finances and Life Sciences. Two new industries will be added in the near future and they are: Construction and Food Science. The Talent Networks are separated into three regions: North Central and South Jersey. The purpose of the Talent Networks is the connect businesses to communities and drive Career Pathways. New Jersey is focused on 65% by 25. Which is at least 65% of the workforce will have a recognized credential by 2025.

Talent Development Centers have been around for about three years. They are responsible for developing curriculum to be used in trainings needed within the key growth industries. Some Talent Networks have Talent Development Centers assigned to them. Each Talent Development Center is awarded about 1million dollars which is why Kevin feels it is imperative to collaborate and utilize their funding to ensure people are trained/prepared for the workforce.

Review Marketing Strategies to Add or Omit Ideas

The marketing ideas mentioned during the literacy committee meeting in October were presented to Kevin for his input. Kevin agreed the ideas were appropriate and once the committee decides what marketing avenues should be used, he will present the ideas to Kathy Shaw. Kathy Shaw is a big advocate for marketing and may have a few ideas to add.

Questions/Concerns Regarding Sections of Literacy Plan Assigned

The literacy committee members were asked to check their emails for the updated information sent to complete sections of the literacy plan individually. Once those sections are completed they will be submitted to Shamara. Shamara will combine all the sections and distribute the rough draft for the committee to review/edit. Once revisions are made, the final draft will be distributed for review prior to submitting to Kevin for approval.

Perth Amboy Adult School Updates

Dr. Myrna Garcia passed out a flier to inform every one of the Perth Amboy's Adult High School. At least 60 credits are required along with a sealed, official transcript for all high schools attended for a student to be considered. A counselor will discuss plan for student to obtain his/her high school diploma. There are day and evening classes available. Registration begins January 24, 2018. The contact information is as follows: 732-376-6242/ www.paps.net

Any New or Old Business

Kevin mentioned the Middlesex County One-Stop plans to put out a RFP, in early January, for a third learning link due to the increase of funding. Metrix and a computer training curriculum for more advanced computer users is being considered at this time as well. The hard launch for SkillUp Middlesex is scheduled for January as well.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned by Chair, Gloria Aftanski.

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| <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018 – 9:30AM ROOM G 550 JERSEY AVENUE, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901</p> |
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