

VERMONT
Workforce Development Council

NOTES

September, 11, 2006

1) Develop topics and message for the meeting with Richard Cate (Oct 4):

- Perkins Reauthorization - The Committee asked Chip to raise three topics relative to the development of the new Perkins State plan; 1) Strategies that will continue to make secondary tech ed programs more relevant to employer requirements such as workplace-based learning, and industry skill standards, 2) Strategies that will strengthen student career awareness/planning and transition to continuing education including college, and 3) the public engagement process required in the development of the new Perkins State Plan.

ACTION: Request that DOE attend an Exec. Committee meeting to explain the Perkins planning process, partner engagement, and time line.

- DOE Legislative Initiatives - The Committee asked Chip to ask Richard about the Department's Legislative initiatives such as Early Ed and his thoughts about the relevance of adult education and job training to the Department's work.

ACTION: Identify any areas where the WDC might be of assistance.

- Next steps on DOE Integrated Vision for Tech Ed - The Committee asked Chip to get an update from Richard on the next steps on the Department's integrated vision for secondary technical education. What did they hear at last spring's public meetings? What the factors might be that would move high schools to focus more on preparing students for employment, and how we might merge the best of high schools and technical centers? Why should students have to choose?

ACTION: Identify was in which the WDC might assist, and update to the Exec. Committee on next steps.

- Would the Department like to co-sponsor a meeting with Superintendents on the subject of workforce preparation, using the results of our Fall 2005 meeting as a starting point for discussion.

2) Update on the Next Generation Initiative: Chip subsequently attended the meeting of the Next Generation Commission to respond to their request for information on European workforce development systems, and what Vermont might learn. At the meeting, the Commission discussed the need to take a broader look at how potential students are prepared for college and workforce entry. This would include traditional age students as well as those already in the workforce. The Commission members discussed this in the context that in addition to the funding barriers to entering college

there are also barriers related to student preparation and geographic access. It was agreed that we should arrange a meeting with Bill Stenger to discuss the Council's Vision and how we can collaborate. This meeting was subsequently scheduled for Oct. 11. Fran Voigt, Pat Moulton Powden and Chip plan to attend. Chip will attend the Commission meetings on Sept. 26, Oct. 3, and Oct. 24 and Nov. 3. John O'Kane is scheduled to speak to the Commission on October 3.

3) Building WIB/RDC linkages:

Chip reported that he plans to talk to the WIBs about their relationship with the RDC's. In some cases these are close working relationships, and some RDC's host their workforce boards. In other cases the relationship is less strong or non-existent. There was discussion about how much time Chip should spend on the WIBs. Currently, there are two Statewide meetings a year, regular e-mail communications and on-site visits as needed, particularly for WIBS that the reporting system shows are not performing well.

4) Full Council Meeting Agenda:

The draft agenda for the full meeting was reviewed and redrafted. A revised copy is attached:

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Fall 2006 Meeting

- 10:30 New Member Orientation:
Chairs Welcome and Introductions
- Council Responsibilities in State and Federal legislation
- Vision
- Accomplishments and Activities
- 12:00 Lunch and Governor's address
- Charge to the Council
- 1:00 Full Board Meeting Begins:
Chairs Welcome, Introductions, and review of the agenda
- 1:15 Workforce Challenge: - Andy Condon,

Labor Market Information Director VDOL

- Changing Vermont Economy
- Workforce Demographic Trends
- Q and A

2:00 Small Group Discussions (regional, sectoral or topical?)

- Topics:

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3:00 Brief Reports from Groups

3:20 Adjourn

Handouts (or advanced mailing):

Agenda
2005 Annual Report
Council Responsibility in Legislation
Workforce Challenge
Vision