



Meeting Minutes
Department of Labor
4th Floor Conference Room
Trenton, NJ 08625
Tuesday, June 8, 2016

Attendance: Hal Beder-Acting Chair, Nancy Fisher- Jewish Vocational Services., Alan Guenther–Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, Joanne Hala- Northern United Way of NJ, Sheryl Hutchison – State Employment & Training Commission, Renee Ingram Department of Human Services, Mimi Lee- New Jersey State Library, Kirk Lew- State Employment & Training Commission, Julio Sabater- Workforce Advantage USA, Barry Semple-Co Chair, Howard Miller- New Jersey Department of Labor and & Workforce Development, John Bicica- New Jersey Department of Labor and & Workforce Development, Gary Altman – State Employment and Training Commission

Welcome and Introduction

The meeting was called to order by acting chair Hal Beder at 10:05 a.m. The members in attendance were asked to introduce themselves and the organizations they are each representing. The acting chair reviewed the agenda and the goals for today’s meeting. Alan Guenther made a motion to accept the meeting minutes; Nancy Fisher seconded the motion. The meeting minutes for the March 2016 meeting were unanimously accepted.

State of the State plan

Kirk Lew reported on the state of the New Jersey’s Combined State Plan. The plan was sent to the federal government through an online portal. The public comment period for the plan ended on May 31, 2016.

Regional and Local plans

Kirk Lew reported on the regional and local planning guidance that are being created by the SETC and Thomas P. Miller and Associates. The guidance for regional planning has been given to each of the regional leads. The regional areas are working with consultants from TPMA to complete their plans.

TPMA will be writing all three regional plans to ensure consistency from one plan to the next. Local area planning guidance has been developed and will be provided to local areas by the end of the summer. Performance, demographic and labor market information will be provided to each of the local areas by NJLWD’s Office of Research and Information.



I. WIOA Implementation – Staff development

Howard provided a presentation on LWD’s strategic action steps that will move the Title II system into compliance with WIOA and the needs of NJ residents. The Title II programs should be better integrated into the local workforce system. The WDB director’s signature should be a minimum requirement. Consortia need to become real partners with their respective One-Stops. In 2013, consortium leads were required to get WDB director sign-off on NGO proposals. This represented an attempt to foster collaboration between the WDB and literacy. The local literacy effort will be required to get necessary signatures and participate in the broader workforce system in variety of ways:

- The development/implementation of MOU between literacy and one stops.
- ESL and low level literacy learners – Awareness and services for this population
- Strengthening the system in light of performance requirements to promote holistic services and discourage creaming
- Dynamic consideration of resources to assist in providing entry-level credentials
- Plan needs to reflect the future state of the literacy system. The system may serve less people in a more comprehensive manner.

SCALES requested that literacy considerations be noted in the state plan. The final rules will be released at the end of the month. The final rules should reinforce the importance of collaborative planning and coordination between partners. John Bicica introduced the importance of New Jersey establishing its own definition of who is considered basic skills deficient. WIOA provides its definition, but gives the local areas options.

Professional development

State shall be involved following a 4-year gap:

- Contracting Rutgers School of education to a self-assessment with the literacy consortium. (Study on choice of professional development and what is being done) (12 month starts in July 1st – phone and face to face assessment.)
- Consortia will include the local systems. Leads to instructor in the classroom.
- Funds cannot pay for professional development and pay the staff.
- College and Career Readiness Standards – will be used for assessment and to create related training for the local literacy consortia.
- Development of system next year.



- Consortia were administrative entities; roles are increasing. (Need for program oversight for the system)
- What is the tie in with curricula? How do we do this? Need for tangible results from title II curriculum development group.
- The program is free and people should not be charged.

SCALES

What is the next step for policy work? Cannot be used in the traditional method. What is the role?

– Ideas from LWD

1. No need for white pager.
2. Embody values that are long lasting - Impact the professionalization of the system.
 - a. Disconnection to system – Education with the WDB (Conjoined and Co-planned services)
 - i. WDB Handbook revision
 - ii. Define what is conjoined and planning with the local planning guidance
 - iii. MOU between local literacy consortium and one stop system.
 - iv. State sponsored and local influenced system
 - v. Review basic skill deficiency definition for local areas.

How do we get to this vision?

- Make the system more integrated. Starts with the messaging and sharing of resources and planning.
- Line item for supplemental funds for literacy and needs to go to employers. The line item can be used in more creative ways.

II. Comment and Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am. SCALES members were encouraged to attend the April NJALL conference.

Next Meeting: September 7, 2016
NJLWD Labor Building, 1 John Fitch Way, Trenton, NJ