



Workforce and Talent Development Board (WTDB)

Essential Employability Skills Taskforce

MINUTES VIRTUAL MEETING

June 30, 2020
1:30p-3:00p

Conference call: +1 929-229-5751 Access Code: 742 525 641#

Persons wishing to testify during public comment period should email Sydney.G.King@oregon.gov 12 hours prior to the meeting.

Members Present: Anne Mersereau (Co-Chair), Melinda Rogers (Co-Chair), Lauren Corbett, Jason Galbraith, Heidi Larwick, Olivia Nell, Cathy Reynolds, Myronda Schiding, Tom Thompson, David Conley

Staff Present: Sydney King, Clay Martin, Todd Nell

Standing Business

Organizational Business

1.0

1.1 Co-Chair Anne Mersereau brought the meeting to order at 1:34pm.

2.0 Public Comment: None.

3.0 Consent Agenda: Melinda Rogers made a motion to approve the 5/26/20 Essential Employability Skills Taskforce Minutes, Cathy seconded. None opposed. Motion passed.

Strategic Leadership

4.0 Workforce and Education

4.1 Todd Nell recounted the last Essential Employability Skill Taskforce meeting. He reminded the taskforce that we heard about the success with Elevate Lane County, presented by Heidi Larwick. The 21st Century Skills presentation by Andrew McGough, and finally the presentation by David Conley. He went over the materials that were included in the meeting packet, pointing out the WTDB Equity Lens and the Equity Framework designated by the Governor, that the agency is taking seriously.

4.2 Jim Fong, Director of the Rogue Workforce Board, and his associate, Dana Schume, the Business and Education Partner Coordinator for the Rogue Workforce Board, presented on the Business-Education partnership within their region. Dana began the presentation by her work with essential employability skills, they kept coming back to the term “soft-skills”, and this led to an Educational Skills Rubric. This rubric showed a progression in developing the soft skills that employers find so invaluable. It has been simplified to be able to grow as more work around this is done. Jim Fong then presented on the competency model that Department of Labor has developed for each sector of the workforce. He highlighted that they are trying to focus on the root, or base, in order to grow these other “soft-skills”. Things like, mindfulness, grit and self-awareness. The Rogue Workforce Board offers seminars and coaching for these root skills.

Members:

ANNE MERSEREAU

MELINDA ROGERS

LAUREN CORBETT

TONY FRAZIER

JASON GALBRAITH

JESSICA HOWARD

HEIDI LARWICK

ANDREW MCGOUGH

OLIVIA NELL

CATHY REYNOLDS

MYRONDA SCHIDING

KYLE STEVENS

TOM THOMPSON

LAURIE CREMONA-

WAGNER

DAVID CONLEY

JIM TAYLOR

Staff:

SYDNEY KING

CLAY MARTIN

TODD NELL, DIRECTOR

Members:

ANNE MERSEREAU
MELINDA ROGERS
LAUREN CORBETT
TONY FRAZIER
JASON GALBRAITH
JESSICA HOWARD
HEIDI LARWICK
ANDREW MCGOUGH
OLIVIA NELL
CATHY REYNOLDS
MYRONDA SCHIDING
KYLE STEVENS
TOM THOMPSON
LAURIE CREMONA-
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DAVID CONLEY
JIM TAYLOR

Staff:

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CLAY MARTIN
TODD NELL, DIRECTOR

4.3 Jason Galbraith, a Computer Science teacher at Sunset High School, also a member of the Artificial Intelligence Taskforce, gave a presentation on his experience as a teacher, and where he sees opportunities to grow these skills in young people. He outlined the computer science course within Sunset High School, and pointed out that there are multiple entry points, to be able to pique multiple points of interest. He does not host a conventional lecture-style classroom model, there is a mix of freshmen through seniors in his class, all working on different levels and different material. He talked about his experience with COVID-19, and how that has affected student attendance, and how he has adjusted his style to accommodate the crisis, as well as provide students with structure, but also lee-way.

4.4 Clay Martin conducted some research into primary requirements for a high school graduate:

- Credit Requirements
- Essential Skills: 9 identified, only 3 required
- Personalized Learning Requirements

Discussion around this topic ensued. Some ideas that came forward were, restructuring the education infrastructure, having businesses invest in these skills for their own people, and providing classes before or after school with a public/private sector partnership.

Strategic Management

5.0 Strategy, Planning and Execution

5.1 Todd Nell let taskforce members know that the draft charter for the Essential Employability Skills Taskforce is still being circulated to sponsors to sign, with the caveat of adding language on businesses teaching their own people as well. Once it is complete, staff will circulate it to the taskforce, and post online.

Next Steps:

- Create sub-committee to mock up draft report
- Clay will research Essential Employability Skills nationally
- Next meeting is next month

Adjourned at 3:04pm