

Regional Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes - 12/3/24

Members present: Anne Beekman, BUHS Board; Christy Betit, Chair/Brattleboro Dev. Credit Corp.; Peter Broussard, Windham Central Board; Mari Cornell, WRCC; Anne Doran, WRCC; Debra Grant, CCV; Kathy Larson, Twin Valley Board; Chloe Learey, Winston Prouty Ctr.; Eduardo Melendez Rodriguez, WRCC; Bob Thibeault, Sup't.-Windham Central Supervisory Union; Nancy Wiese, WRCC; Rhonda Winegardner, BUHS Counseling/Dual Enrollment and Bob Woodworth, Community Member.

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Approve the agenda
Eduardo made the motion to approve the agenda. Anne D. seconded.
3. Approve Meeting Minutes from October 1, 2024
No quorum - no vote
Chloe asked if a vote can be taken through email? Nancy didn't see why that wouldn't be o.k.
4. Discussion and Review of WRCC Regional Advisory Board By-Laws
No quorum - put on agenda for next meeting
5. Budget Review and Discussion
The district called to budget only for what is needed. Nancy said it is hard to do because of cost increases. Supply lines are tricky. WRCC had four paras. Difficulty filling positions due to contract wage scale and skill level. It is also a negotiating year. Nancy cut down to 2 ½ paras from 4.5. Would like an increase for paras on the wage scale. Will not be able to keep our Machining para without increasing the pay level. A para in health needs to be an LPN or RN. Expecting a retirement next year. May be able to hire the Adult evening LNA instructor for this position. Willing to cut to two to make it happen. \$25,000. was to professional education service. The increase in early childhood education needs to be accurately reflected. Dues and fees increased by \$2,000. Would like students to be able to continue participating in conferences they attend. This enables students to go into work-based learning positions. Nancy would like this to ensure students can attend both conferences. This will eventually be moved to the general budget. Reduced Business supply line by \$5,000. and Criminal Justice also. In Auto, we are switching how we designate money for supplies. In the past, parts were paid for through the SAF account. This is hard to audit. It's also hard to accept cash and track. Customers pay for their parts and then have the option to make a donation separate from labor. Criminal Justice received new computers. Budget was adjusted accordingly. Eduardo's salary was moved from a grant into the local budget. Aviation salary will stay in a grant. Considering the longevity of the instructor, if moved to local budget it would increase significantly. Conservative with what we expect from Perkins funding. Will need to be prepared for cuts. Overall budget change is decreased by 0.63% - basic level

Regional Advisory Board Meeting
12/3/24 - Minutes
Page Two

funding. The most significant chunk is health insurance. Nancy expressed that she tries to spend

all of her grant money. It is always a balancing act. When it comes time to edit, Nancy does it in a way that the money can be spent.

Mari asked if Co-op and Work Based Learning were the same. Eduardo said that Work Based Learning is the umbrella that all the others fall under. Nancy said that we have \$20,000. in revenue in adult education, and we are on track for \$80,000. The LNA program has brought in this revenue and Adult Ed. will be offering SolidWorks through G.S. Precision. We are on an upswing. Kathy Larsen added that this is a great move. Well done!

Christy explained what the P3 program provides at the career center. There are three separate classes. Nancy said that it is BUHS campus-focused, but all students participate. Nancy wants to make sure 100% of our students benefit. Christy added that there is a lot of concern around the Professional Communication course funding. It is not all transactional. Nancy said it is great to have that partnership - sharing funding is how we do that. Chloe said that the budget is very complicated. How can it be made digestible? Nancy noted that Frank Rucker created a little cheat sheet. Anything that doesn't end in eight zeros is a grant. Chloe said the budget looks good since we are level-funded. Nancy said she aims to position us as close to level funding as possible. The vast majority of spending is student-focused. It's difficult to support if not focused on students. Three points Nancy has come away with regarding Perkins funding:

- Legislation
- Things that may be coming down the pike
- Vendors - good info, helps to make knowledgeable purchases

We have Career Foundations to push out to 9th graders. How do we do it in a way that informs the teacher to do it correctly?

Anne would love to see more ways to get more students into the Professional Communications class. Would like to see a greater percentage taking this class. The high school has a considerable number of English classes. Christy added that Senior Survival at LeLand and Gray is similar to our communications course. Students say it's the most valuable class.

6. Exploring Opportunities

How can we, as a board, be a sounding board to Nancy? Would like to take a pulse on advisory members and see what your hopes and dreams are for this advisory board. Create a brief survey to prioritize which goals we would like to focus on. Would like to get a small committee to come up with the survey. Nancy wants it to focus on the more

Regional Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes - 12/3/24
Page Three

significant committee needs. What can we do with our dual enrollment partners?
Respond to Chloe and/or Christy. Rhonda brought up the concern about verbiage.

Open-ended topic of what people may ask for. Things that are not reasonable. Chloe asked how you leverage the RAB board roles. Christy said that the questions would be delivered in an intentional way.

Anne noted that if a program needed to be added, community members would come to the RAB board and present. We have to use info from CLNA. Nancy would review the courses added. This system was in place for ECE. Nancy would like us to thoughtfully look at the programs. How do we do it budget-wise? Nancy wants us to grow our connection with businesses. Anne asked how to structure the question. Bob Wickberg can help with creating an email group.

Anne mentioned that the Reality Fair is coming up. Will be opening up our applications. Will continue to do tours for sending schools. Christy explained that it was a challenge to get BUHS attendance at the LeLand & Gray Reality Fair. There are two segments - financial and practical skills. Will focus on different grade levels. Feb. 29th is the Practical Life Skills. Eighth and tenth grades to be exposed to career center programs. The financial portion will be held on March 19th - just for juniors.

May 7th BDCC offers a career fair. High demand and apprentice fair. A tremendous amount of work. Anne will meet with students afterward to get more in-depth information. Rhonda added that N.A. R. is working in conjunction with all teachers on what skills are needed. Teachers are spelling this out. Anne asked for examples. Rhonda explained that we are working on career plans of study. Working on master documents to have data - why students may not be accepted. We want a very clear pathway document.

Rhonda suggested having a committee to do outreach to ensure members are present. Nancy briefed board members about the sweatshirts that are given to students. We don't want to send students home where there isn't any heat. Nancy said this is called wearable advertising. It also gives students a sense of belonging. It's amazing to watch the students when they receive the sweatshirts.

The next RAB meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm