

Washoe County Ready For Life®

Policy, Systems Change & Sustainability Workgroup Meeting

Date: August 19, 2009 **Time:** 10-11:30 am **Location:** Education Alliance 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1150 Matley Lane in Reno

Facilitator: Denise Hedrick/Juanita Ydiando

Timekeeper: Denise Hedrick

Note taker: Sarah Yeats

Attendees: Denise Hedrick, Karen Barsell, Eric Ohlsen, Eric Beye, Juanita Ydiando, Steve Hull, Bryn Lapenta and Kathleen Conoboy

Notes

Agenda item: Old business **Presenter:** Group

Discussion: Follow-up and update on minutes from last meeting

- SB 330, Section 5.7: SB 300 did not pass, Juanita sent an email to Sarah Boxx who forwarded it to Chanda with NPEF. They will determine how to move forward and ensure that RFL is recognized in the next legislative session. Denise suggested to add the RFL council to another organization or program, as the idea of a Governing Council is repetitive. Karen asked how many RFLs exist in the different counties. Several already exist in Washoe, Clark and Churchill and there is talk of expanding into Douglas. Policy group needs to connect with Sarah Boxx about what RFL is going to do during the legislative interim and what the final platform goals were. Denise said she has this information and will verify with Chanda. The Policy group should connect with Chris Melloway and the Awareness group regarding RFL outreach.
- Ad Hoc Committee: The ownership of RFL was discussed, currently no one "owns" RFL. Paul Dugan has agreed to become RFL's spokesperson. It may be clear within RFL who the "leader" is however, it isn't clear to the public. There needs to be a discussion on this so that it is clear to everyone. It was decided that an Ad Hoc committee would be formed to discuss this matter, and they would then present it to the Executive Committee. Steve, Karen and Denise have all volunteered to serve on this committee.
- Funding of RFL: Karen informed the group that United Way has emergency funds that RFL could apply for, it would require Denise to write a 1 ½ page report on RFL's current funding status. Karen will then present it to the United Way Executive Committee for approval. Funding would cover up to \$2,500 for one month. Juanita also wanted to know about the option to start an account for RFL, in case a donor would like to donate money to the initiative. Denise said that it's hard for a group like RFL to do this because it is a non-entity. RFL would have to collaborate with another organization, like Education Alliance in order to have an account. For this to happen, Denise would need to bring it up the Education Alliance Board and the Finance Committee. Other suggestions included setting up an earmark fund/budget transfer or collaborating with Nevada Public Education Foundation.
- Smart Thinking: will be launched on time for 7-12 with a focus on 8th and 9th graders. There will be a focus on biology, algebra and core writing. Most of the students enrolled have a 2.5 GPA average and want to work with teachers and parents. There is enough funding for the semester and potentially for the full year. TMCC students will still be able to use the program. They are encouraging students to use this sparingly or when needed. Currently there is a contract for 7,500 hours which equals out to be \$25 per hour, with 3 kids being able to access this per hour.
- Form for data system: currently writing MOU to take to County Commission, form has been approved. System needs to be clarified on how it will be used. Need to take into account the importance of confidentiality.
- Forward thinking: Kathleen met with Senator Horsford who said that there is a sentiment to support the movement. There is a development of a charter school office. Invited charter school associations and superintendents to discuss streamlining with the department on functionality. Tracking ACR 2 committee during the interim will be important. There might be a special sessions and more cuts (some items that did not pass might come back up).
- P16: question of who represents RFL on the P16 group. Bryn said that she does not have a seat but attends and watches the meetings. She will provide an update next time. There was a suggestion to use Education Alliance since they already have a P16 structure.
- Legislation/Disconnect: Bryn attended the attendance summit. Kids are not attending but the schools know where they are. There was discussion about keeping those students on the roll who miss attending during

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the statistical month. There are also issues with distance education, mainly with communication between students and the teachers.

- Potpourri: Paul Dugan will do an interview for RFL for Family/Pulse magazine. Funding for academic courses is still not considered a part of the academic load. New York symposium will present on 9/17 to asset building group.

Conclusions: Review Action Plan, determine what has been accomplished and tasks yet to be accomplished. Create goals for next three to six months.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Ad Hoc meeting update	Denise/ Karen/Steve	Next meeting
✓ Funding update	Denise	Next meeting
✓ Update on KN system	Eric Beye	Next meeting
✓ Washoe County perspective on state RFL	Juanita/Denise	Next meeting

Other Information

Observers:

Resources:

Special notes:

Next meeting, SEI will send out agenda and previous meeting's note, however, an SEI associate will not be in attendance. Need to appoint a new note-taker.
