

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

State Workforce Youth Council

Meeting Date: June 12, 2020

Meeting Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Meeting Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/91364376114?pwd=MUdDaUhHTCtic3pLSC9FRGtDdDk1dz09>

AGENDA

Welcome & Introductions	Co-Chairs	10:00am – 10:10am
Review of February 7 Meeting Minutes (Vote for approval)	Co-Chairs	10:10am – 10:15am
COVID-19 Updates and Discussion	Co-Chairs	10:15am – 11:00am
Discussion on Career Ready School Program of Excellence Proposal and Draft Rubric	Rhonda Mize & Lester Claravall	11:00am – 11:35am
Resources and Outreach Subcommittee Updates and Discussion	Tracy Keeley	11:35am – 11:45am
High School Equivalency Subcommittee Updates and Discussion	Lance Allee	11:45am – 11:55am
Old Business New Business	Co-Chairs	11:55am – 12:00pm
Adjourn	Co-Chairs	12:00pm

ATTACHMENTS

- February 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Draft for approval)

ATTENDEES

Steve Shepelwich, co-chair	Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
Cecilia Robinson-Woods, co-chair	Millwood Public Schools
Greg Hall, member	Youth Advocate
Kerry Manning, member	Southern Workforce Board
Lance Allee, member	Oklahoma Career Tech
Marissa Lightsey, member	Oklahoma Department of Education



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Rhonda Mize, member	Choctaw Nation
Robert Greenlaw, member	Kimray
Francie Moss, member	Retired Youth Advocate
Traci Keeley, member	Oklahoma Insurance Department
Emmit Grayson, member	Oklahoma Department of Commerce
Jackie Pearson, member	Tinker Air Force Base
Jeff Pritchard, member	Oklahoma Public Schools Resource
AJ Crowell, guest	OKCareerTech
Amanda Burnside, guest	Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Ginger Allison, guest	Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development
Megan Ellis, guest	Boys and Girls Club
Darcee Simon, staff	Oklahoma Department of Commerce – Office of Workforce Development

MEETING MINUTES

Welcome & Introductions

At approximately 10:00am, Steve Shepelwich began the meeting by welcoming members and guests to the virtual committee meeting.

Review and Approval of February 7, 2020 Minutes

Steve asked the committee members to review the February 7, 2020 minutes. Rhonda Mize made a motion to approve the minutes and Greg Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

COVID-19 Updates and Discussion

Steve asked committee members to share general updates related to the COVID-19 impact of their organizations.

Amanda Burnside shared that the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse is continuing to telework. Education and training programs have pivoted to a telehealth model. Steve asked if they had identified any innovative practices that may be worth continuing. Amanda complimented her teammates for their agility to respond and deliver services in a virtual manner.

Megan Ellis reported that all of the Boys and Girls Clubs closed to in-person service when schools closed. They have now shifted to a new virtual model of service via social

media for outreach and engagement. They've also been partnering with food banks and working on activity packets for students who do not have internet access at home. Many sites are now opening through Phase 3 of the Governor's plan and some were identified as essential service businesses and had reopened earlier to serve the children of healthcare responders and other essential employees.

Jennifer Thatcher introduced herself from the Office of Juvenile Affairs. She shared that her agency has looked at a lot of policies for doing general business and communication with youth in out of home placements and in detention centers, especially regarding the number of youth being detained. They have been working with judges and public defenders to reduce the number of youth in detention centers and evaluating strategies for reducing numbers in that population. COVID-19 has restricted the visitation procedures in out of home placement centers and staff have been utilizing technology in more innovative ways to communicate with families. This has resulted in a positive trend of strengthened relationships between staff and families to support youth.

Ginger Allison shared that the Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning team at the Office of Workforce Development had moved some of the planned sessions and content from the Work-Based Learning Summit to a virtual platform. The summit had been scheduled in April, but was cancelled due to COVID-19. Ginger invited the committee members to attend the virtual keynote which is scheduled for June 16th and shared that registration information is available on the Oklahoma Works website. There will also be a training on Developing Registered Apprenticeships on July 9th.

Emmit Grayson shared that local boards had been encouraged to utilize the virtual process that was already in place to serve WIOA youth. He noted the use of social media as a good tool for youth engagement, which many local areas had already built into their processes. Emmit emphasized that the expectations from the Department of Labor have remained unchanged for our services to individuals with barriers and noted that many of these barriers could have expanded or increased as a result of the pandemic. Emmit complimented the creativity of the local areas who are continuing to innovate through these challenges.

Kerry Manning added that the Southern Workforce board's service provider and other providers from the other local areas had programming that could be delivered virtually. The Department of Labor provided guidance for individuals who had been participating in work experience opportunities that were impacted by pandemic closures. Since they were enrolled in a training program, they would not be eligible for unemployment insurance and therefore were permitted to receive their weekly wages based on the

work experience. Kerry noted the success of response rates from providing a virtual application for services. She stated that the American Job Centers were beginning to reopen and PPE supplies had been purchased to ensure the safety of staff and participants. There will also be cleaning services and security added to existing center operations.

Lance Allee shared that he would provide his subcommittee update along with the update from his agency. He noted that the majority of the Adult Basic Education programs have been built on a face-to-face model of service and the adjustments have been a learning process for the agency and instructors. He sees a virtual model as beneficial to program growth and availability in rural communities. Regarding high school equivalency, Lance stated that testing sites are now opening back up across the state for both GED and HiSET exams. The state has been notified that the TASC exam will be moving out of Oklahoma and focusing on states without competing vendors. Oklahoma has chosen not to offer online test proctoring in light of testing centers being able to reopen. Lance stated that there are a lot of requirements for making the test available online that may be additional barriers for students and testing centers. Steve asked if the number of testing centers is still a barrier and Lance responded that it can be but he is optimistic that centers have reopened in both metro areas as well as more of the rural communities in the state.

Tracy Keeley shared an update for the Resources and Outreach committee, which is still hoping to partner with Governor Stitt's initiatives on resource mapping. She expressed an interest in working with the Be a Neighbor initiative, but noted that they are with the Health Department and have been hard to connect with due to the pandemic. Tracy noted that schools have been permitted to re-open for summer sports and driver's education courses, which is how she connects with teachers and students to offer her curriculum on insurance and financial literacy.

Rhonda Mize shared that Choctaw Nation Career Development has experienced challenges with clients who were in short term training programs. Many of them are in limbo as a result of abrupt termination of those programs that are not complete. The program has been conducting outreach for high school graduates to provide career counseling and support. The Career Expo that was scheduled for October 28th will now be a virtual event and can now have a broader student reach.

Robert Greenlaw noted that from the business perspective at KimRay, there have been economic impacts to industry from the pandemic and the adoption to remote work has been abrupt with a number of surprising benefits.

Yolanda Scott from the Central Oklahoma Workforce Innovation Board noted that there is a new set of soft skills that youth need to learn for virtual work and other technology. She is developing workshops for youth and strategize how to access classrooms virtually to let students know about workforce services.

Jackie Pearson shared that the air force base is working to move a number of internships from an in-person experience to virtual.

Cecilia Robinson-Woods shared that Millwood Public Schools has been out of school since March. 22 of 52 seniors had an internship or job-readiness experience this semester and the student delivered a virtual report on the experience. The Zoom also included the businesses to share a report on the experience working with that student. She expects that these types of experiences will support the school in planning for social distancing and limits to the number of students on campus in a way that will provide more flexibility to the traditional school day of a senior.

Steve thanked the members for sharing their updates.

Discussion on Career Ready School Program of Excellence Proposal and Draft Rubric

Steve invited Rhonda to share more about the Career Ready School rubric. Rhonda thanked Darcee for supporting the subcommittee's work to finalize the proposal and shared her excitement with moving the final product forward. Darcee shared more context about the State Department of Education's Champion Excellence Initiative and alignment of workforce development initiatives for K-12 students across the state. The Career Ready School proposed rubric was modelled after the current Programs of Excellence assessment tools and includes three categories for evaluation: Employability & Professional Skills, Ethics & Character, and Employer & Community Engagement

Cecilia congratulated the subcommittee members on developing the framework. Steve asked what the next steps were before presenting this to the Governor's Council. Darcee asked the youth committee to review the framework and share the draft within their network for feedback. It will then be submitted to the Governor's Council as a recommended proposal on their behalf for the State Department of Education. Their next meeting is July 31st. The subcommittee discussed getting feedback from both rural and urban school leaders from elementary through secondary levels to examine the rubric through an equity lens. Steve suggested hosting a virtual meeting or listening session for feedback as well. Darcee stated that she would share the rubric with feedback questions with the committee members to distribute.



Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

Friday, August 7, at 10am

Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City Campus

Business Technologies Building, 3rd Floor, BT304A

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Darcee Simon



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