

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director

Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 136, Boise, Idaho 83702

Outreach Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Time: 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Committee Members: ~~John Young~~, Anna Almerico, Donna Butler, Linda Clark, Janelle Culley, Allison Duman, ~~Dave Hannah~~, ~~Liza Leonard~~, Megan O'Rourke, Janet Pretti, ~~Georgia Smith~~, Caty Solace, ~~Jeff Tucker~~, ~~Matt Van Vleet~~

Staff: Sherawn Reberry, Rebecca Watson, Amanda Ames, Cassie Mansour

Guests: Sara Scudder, Jenni Kimball

Call to Order at 1:32 p.m.

Roll call - Quorum Met

Review Agenda – Due to not having a quorum at the beginning of the meeting, the Clearwater Economic Development Corporation Update was moved up on the agenda.

Outreach Projects

Final Report from Clearwater Development Corporation

The final report from Clearwater Development Corporation was presented by Ms. Reberry.

Discussion:

- Ms. Solace commented after the presentation that this is an excellent organization which is committed to uplifting Idaho's youth and furthering relationships with our partners.

Quarterly Report from Caldwell School District

Dr. Reberry presented Caldwell School District's quarterly report including the outreach documents they created with their grant.

Discussion:

- Did the communication from the high school students make a difference in the interest level in the younger students?
 - We will ask for that information and get back to the Committee at our next meeting.

***Approve February 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Ms. Pretti to approve the February 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes as written. Second by Ms. Butler. Motion carried.

Updates and Potential Projects

Idaho Connect Updates

Dr. Reberry presented updates to Idaho Connect, formerly called "Next Step Connect" or "Pathful Idaho Connections". The WDC staff are working on updating the one-pagers and related outreach information with the

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new branding. She demonstrated the functionality of the website: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/next-steps-idaho-connections> and walked the committee through the various tools and functions.

Discussion:

- The Committee felt that “educator” might be more inclusive language than “teacher” because there are a lot of after school programs that are utilizing this tool.
- The Committee noted that homeschool communities have been using this tool effectively as well.
- The Committee recognizes the contributions of Dr. Linda Clark in the effort to bring this tool to the State of Idaho.
- Members of the Committee met with the Pathful team, and they are very motivated to continue partnering with the WDC and with the State to pursue opportunities in education.

Next Steps Feedback from Committee

Dr. Reberry requested feedback from the Committee on Next Steps as a tool for students. House Bill 24 (HB24) will be introduced in a few days. Part of this bill requires students to participate in career prep and planning to benefit from Idaho Launch funding.

- Ms. Pretti requested the source of the career data on Next Steps.
 - Ms. Scudder responded that this data is taken from the Idaho Department of Labor which is free to us.
- Have we considered using Lightcast?
 - This has been a significant topic of conversation in the development of this product. We considered using different sources, but the truth is that at the state level there is a significant value in using consistent data across agencies.
 - Currently, the State Board doesn’t have a contract with Lightcast.
- The Committee compared the visual/access of the adult users of this program to the 8th – 12th grade user.
- If this is going to be connected to the Launch funds what is the extent to which a student is required to complete certain aspects of Next Steps?
 - Dr. Reberry clarified that will be a recommendation to the Council that this committee will develop.
- The staff will continue to work on this and when the legislation is introduced, we will allow it to guide integration and expansion.
- If you are navigating the Next Steps site and have concerns about an issue, please use the Contact Us form at the bottom of the page: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/contact#>

Child Care Expansion Grant Updates

Ms. Ames presented updates to the Committee on Child Care Expansion Grants which have been recommended to the Executive Committee so far. She also communicated to the Committee that the Child Care Committee has requested an additional \$15 million for the next fiscal year and is waiting to hear if this legislation will pass.

Motion by Ms. O’Roarke to adjourn. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 1:28 PM