BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director

Deni Hoehne
Chair

Sarah Griffin
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, Idaho 83702

Program Impact & Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Committee Members: Cathleen McHugh, Cate Collins, Carrie Semmelroth, Lori Barber, Craig Shaul, ~~Henry Nguyen~~, Chet Andes

Staff: Kimberly Gardner, Denise Hill, Sherawn Reberry, Wendi Secrist, Stacy James, Tina Polishchuk, Dee Mooney, Jan Whiting

Guests:

Call to order at 9:01 a.m.

Welcome **Senator Carrie Semmelroth, Chair**

Roll Call

Review Agenda
Ms. Secrist will present both topics without break

Approve Meeting Minutes January 7, 2025

Motion by Mr. Shaul to approve January 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Collins. Motion carried.

Presentation on LAUNCH enrollment impacts Dr. Cathleen McHugh

- Report indicates an increase in the number of students that went on to college
- There was a shift from out-of-state to in-state attendance
- The data reviewed is for 2024, both public and private
- Compared numbers from 2020, 2022, and 2024
- LAUNCH would be the factor that influenced college go-on
- Public going rate also increased
- LAUNCH increased in-state going
- It is an increase and a shift
- National data showed the same relationship

- Cathleen will share with the committee
- Discussion:
    - Can't compare percentages
    - 0verall saw 5% increase in go-on rate
    - 12% decrease in those that went out-of-state
    - Are there additional statistics that say if you stay in the state and graduate from post-secondary training, you have a probability of working in the same state, yes 75%
        - Not able to capture all the information due to self-employment, etc.; but percent could be higher
    - LAUNCH has been the largest post-secondary investment in education in the last decade
    - Need this type of investment to see results

Updates in STEM RS language — Wendi Secrist

- Discussing proposed language changes with house sponsor Representative Tanner
- This will be a piece of the WDC/ STEM integration package
- Duties are being integrated
- Sunset added June 30, 2036
- Collaboration requires 50% match; state doesn't need control of the 50% just need to show there is equitable match
- Separation of STEM foundation proposed, they will control distribution of funding for projects of what STEM is
- Must report annually on commitments, expenditures, and outcomes
    - More specific requests, number of educators and network professionals who receive professional development in the area of STEM
    - Number of participants in STEM events supported by Council and post-event results
    - Alignment of STEM courses and post-secondary programs to the in demand for STEM skills and careers in Idaho
    - We are generally aligned for now
    - Will need a definition of STEM programs across DOE, IDOL, and WDC
    - This committee will create a baseline and how we get there
        - Refresh former STEM program list
    - How to put this in the inventory, not yet; need to decide the definitions & make sure the information can be accessed
    - Deliberately vague, will evolve based on Workforce PELL work
    - Should evolve to stronger alignment with leading Idaho and pathways
    - Deficiencies with CIP/SOCc, institutions don't code consistently, need common definitions to get there

Workforce Pell Grant requirements — Wendi Secrist

- Senator Lent is host for STEM/WDC integration legislation
- Implementation and oversight by CTE, SBOE, & WDC
    - Memo in process from the Governor asking for a small working group for recommendations on logistical decisions
        - Where will it be housed and types of regulatory barriers
        - Overall requirements, policies, infrastructure within departments to manage
        - Requirements review, ongoing eligibility
        - Statute changes required for next year

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- 2-3 years to ramp up for performance standard
- NCSL, no states are ready for this; Texas is closest, Idaho may be considered close
- Go-live July 1
- USDOE, no funding for another year; they must approve all funding
- 1st item, Governor must certify and designate a responsible agency
- Programs then go to Secretary of Labor, the second and final gate keeper
- Value added earnings
  - Must show a cohort has earnings
  - Complicated
  - Could be some overlap Credentials of Value
- Accreditation is not part of the language; emphasis is on value added earnings and are they making more than they invested
- Current threshold, providers must be registered with the State Board of Education
- Governors can add additional criteria
- Is the federal definition of high skill and high wage being used? Our Perkins plan may not align, needs further investigation
- Need to look at what repercussions these decisions have on WIOA, in-demand pathways
  - May need thresholds that are built upon each other
  - Not creating different definitions, just thresholds
  - Need CIP alignment

Credentials of Value — Kimberly Gardner

- Continuing the conversation, wanting as much alignment as possible
- Being intentional
- Anticipating data & reporting requirements coming out of Workforce PELL Grant
- Looked at Indiana & BGI process
- Texas Credentials of Value
  - HB8, replaced enrollment-based model with performance-based system
  - Methodology
    - Investment + Opportunity Cost + Comparison Wage ≤ Cumulative earnings
  - Is this close to what the board is doing for work-based funding?
    - Idaho has small sample size making this difficult
    - Is there guidance that will come to define sample size
    - Could look at mediums, we need to decide what small sample size is
    - Outcomes based funding model, committee would like more information
  - Presentation deck will be sent out
- Possible March agenda item
  - Ms. McHugh Outcomes Based Funding presentation

- Credentials of Value Frameworks compared, tabled until March meeting

Education Committee presentation — Wendi Secrist and Senator Carrie Semmelroth

- Tabled until March meeting

Open Discussion

Unanimous consent motion by Ms. Barber to adjourn. No objections.

Meeting adjourn 10:02a.m.

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