

Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2018

North Central High School
Spokane, Washington

Members attending:

Maud Daudon, Karen Lee, Paul Francis, Jeff Charbonneau, Michaela Miller, Peder Digre, Jan Yoshiwara, Susana Reyes, Violet Boyer.

Staff attending:

Michael Meotti, Rachelle Sharpe, Aaron Wyatt, Becky Thompson, Crystal Hall, Isaac Kwakye, Marc Webster, Weiya Liang, and Kristin Ritter.

John Aultman, Education Policy Advisor to Governor Inslee, attended the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chair Maud Daudon.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

January 31, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

Executive Director Update & Recognitions

Michael Meotti, Executive Director

Action Item: Motions were made and seconded to approve Resolution 18-01 and Resolution 18-02.

Resolution (18-01) commemorates Violet Boyer for her many years of service to students in Washington State, both in her career and while serving on the Student Achievement Council. She will retire at the end of June 2018.

Resolution 18-02 recognizes the Council's student representative, Peder Digre for his year representing students of Washington State. Peder will graduate at the end of June with a Master's in Public health

and will continue his work with PATH, an international non-profit organization working to improve health around the world.

Reaching Washington's Attainment Goals

Rachelle Sharpe, Deputy Executive Director

In the 2019-21 Strategic Action Plan, the Student Achievement Council will highlight initiatives, programs, and investments that can help Washington reach its educational attainment goals. The Council members reviewed the state's current level of progress and identified the following challenge areas:

- closing opportunity gaps
- supporting regional leaders
- providing affordable high-quality pathways
- reconnecting adult learners.

On June 21, the Council will convene a work session to explore possible policies, programs, and investments that might improve outcomes within each challenge area.

Engaging Adult Learners to Support Regional and Statewide Goals

Rachelle Sharpe, Deputy Executive Director

In 2017, the Council proposed the development of a statewide Adult Reengagement Framework to support adult students' pathway to earning their credentials. Staff provided an overview of the work thus far and highlighted immediate next steps.

Supporting adult learners will be the focus of the pre-conference workshop for the annual Pave the Way event, scheduled for November 28-29 at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Regional and Statewide Goals

Alisha Benson, Chief Operations Officer

Jodi Strote, Education Attainment Navigator, GSI

Greater Spokane, Inc. (GSI) Greater Minds staff shared the progress of work in Spokane. GSI's goal is to increase the proportion of residents in the Spokane region with high-quality degrees or certificates from 40 percent to 60 percent by 2025. The target population is Spokane's 86,000 working adults with some college and no degree. GSI provides a student-centered navigational approach by business support, higher education support, and support to and through the student's degree completion. State policy is the key components in these efforts to successfully go forward.

Representatives from the Greater Spokane Initiative highlighted secondary and postsecondary programs designed to increased educational attainment. This included an exploration of a Spokane high school's robust STEM offerings and a panel of regional leaders working to improve outcomes for current and potential postsecondary students.

Exploring the Educational and Economic Needs in Spokane

Jenée Myers Twitchell, Impact Director, Washington STEM Network

Lee Lambert, Network Director, Washington STEM Network

Members reviewed regional data related to Spokane's educational outputs, demographics, and anticipated workforce needs. The Spokane regional meeting is a complement to other regional meetings throughout Washington. The focus for each meeting is to help state partners better understand their regional needs, to identify areas of current and potential alignment, and to expand partnerships with the intent to increase educational attainment for students served in regional schools.

Public Comment:

Sarah Halsted with Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) in Spokane asked several questions regarding field availability for their students. Jenée Myers Twitchell responded and they plan to continue the conversation after the meeting.

Susan Nielsen of the College Success Foundation thanked all the partners in the room for the work they are doing to see the 62% of their students reach achievement.

Ray Lawton, former Member of the Washington Student Achievement Council, reminded people in the room that the focus needs to be on regions, especially in the low performance areas.

Chair Maud Daudon adjourned the meeting at 12:05.