

Adult Education Full Consortium
June 11, 2008
Guadalupe Schools, 340 S Goshen Street, Salt Lake City, Utah

Attendees: Anita Craven, Brian Olmstead, Dennis Crane, Kathleen Johnson, Herb Clark, Jeff Galli, Shauna South, Katie Jensen, Loma Prince, Kate Diggins, Sandra Grant, Linda Oda, Marty Kelly, Norman Nakamura, Kellie Tyrrell

Excused: Nate Southerland, Wayne Mifflin, Andrea Worthen,

Welcome: Introduction of new consortium members, Linda Oda and Anita Craven.

Tour and description of Guadalupe Schools and facility and program.

Discussion: Article “No One Left Behind: Re-Considering Adult Basic Education”

Marty began a discussion of the article ““No One Left Behind: Re-Considering Adult Basic Education” by Jerry Rubin.

- Loma: As providers, we should move closer to the student’s place of employment.
- Katie Jensen has been moving the English Language Center in Cache Valley in that direction, teaching classes at various worksites. She has volunteered to assist those who would like to know about the program she is using.
- Norman mentioned that the refugee steering committee is meeting with the Cache Meat Packing Plant next week. There are a number of refugees moving to Logan.
- Kate Diggins works 1:1 with her students and their employers to increase education and improve communication.
- Brian Olmstead is focusing on funding for vocational training for the programs in the prison.
- It was determined that this focus must be addressed with Gary Wixom and Andrea Worthen for this next legislative session to ensure effort to impact correction education programming. Jeff, Brian, and Lory will need to spend time addressing this area.

Marty stated that one of the charges from OVAE is to transition adult learners into the workforce and into post-secondary education. Herb asked about the relationships with unions and apprenticeship programs. He has noticed that there is a lack in trained people to fill positions. It was mentioned that Salt Lake Community College does offer trade programs/labor union programs.

Katie has noticed a gap in beginning writing courses. This gap is not just ESL students but all students. She offered a pilot basic writing class to help close this gap. She would like to know if any other programs have noticed this gap. Marty said that she would put that question out to the directors for their response.

Marty and Kathleen addressed the new DWS outreach project with Ogden Adult Education and the Skills Center. DWS is using TANF funding to implement two projects. Selected DWS customers receiving TANF assistance who do not have a GED or high school diploma were identified. Letters were sent to those individuals informing them about this project. The projects are in the start up phase. DWS has contracted with Ogden School District for two adult education teachers who will follow this group for approximately nine months to one year. They should be starting the first of July. The participants are TABE tested prior to receiving instructions. An entrance survey and an exit survey will be administered. The social research institute at the University of Utah will be tracking the data. This is a program for people without GED/high school at any age. Marty inquired if there will be transition services built-in for entry into a trade or further education. Kathleen said yes. DWS is looking at ways to sustain the projects. Marty asked Shauna to become involved with this project and to represent adult education at the meetings.

Kathleen also mentioned that DWS is involved in another pilot to recreate the FACT Council. They are looking at grants to fund this council. It is in law, but it is a non-funded mandate. This project targets children in elementary school. Referrals will come from elementary counselors. The concept is holistic treatment of the family. The FACT councils bring together the parents, social workers, DWS, Vocational

Rehabilitation, teachers, etc. who needs to be at the table for the parent and child. The pilot is with the Ogden School District. Kate expressed interest in having Guadalupe involved in the FACT Council.

Another area of focus: partnering ESL and the Healthcare Industry. There is a large need to train ESL workers within the industry. The issues are putting ESL workers into the industry or offering training to the health industry workers to provide effective services to non-native English speakers.

Loma raised a question from the article on waiting lists for adult education. She wanted to know if Utah programs have waiting lists. Shauna stated that Utah has had an ESL waiting list. Kate said that Guadalupe's waiting list seldom fell below 100 this year. Katie stated her program added sessions but still had a waiting list. Dennis said they are waiting on them.

News from the Field

Eastern Region: Dennis stated that since the last meeting he and other directors recognize through UTopia that they need to do a better job in motivating the lower level ABE student to stay with the program and raise their skills. Students are very motivated at first but when they realize they will not graduate in the year and that it will take much longer than anticipated they start looking elsewhere. They find the local college will accept them without a high school diploma or GED. It is expensive but it is an option for them. Dennis feels that the collaboration and a referral process with DWS and Vocational Rehabilitation is improving.

Shauna brought up her meeting in the in Grand School District. She had a chance to meet with their literacy council and the DWS regional staff. There is a childcare facility that is not being used. It was offered for use to adult education. They can offer childcare in the evening in the facility and still get the parents to education. The DWS representative and her manager were unaware of the 360 form and were not making referrals. They were not paying the stipend to have adult education administer the TABE Test. Kathleen mentioned that there has been a complete change in management in that area.

Western Region: Brian stated the issue at the forefront In the Western Region is gasoline prices and the cost of transportation. It is going to impact everything particularly the budgets.

Marty spoke for Iron regarding an issue with referrals between the Department of Workforce Services and the adult education program. Steve has a process for a 12 hour orientation. DWS has decreased the number of referral to adult education and is testing their clients rather than referring them to the adult education program. Kathleen indicated that she would take that information back to DWS to the appropriate personnel.

Mountainlands Region: Anita Craven is the Mountainlands area director representative replacing Dave Harlan. She stated that she is beginning by making connections with the people in her area. She knows there are frustrations with UTopia. Provo Adult Education is collaborating with Project Read. They are also working with UVU and the Mountainland Applied Technology College to funnel our adult learners there. School to Careers is making presentations and administering the Choices Test to pinpoint interests to hopefully help motivate the student. Provo College and Stevens Heneger are also giving presentations to adult education students about what is available in their programs.

Northern Region: Weber Adult Education is working with the ATC. They are allowing adult education students to take up to 11 credit hours concurrently with no cost to the student.

CBO's are coping with UTopia and wrapping up the year. Shauna asked if there had been any progress with CBO's partnering with the districts. English Language Center of Logan is partnering with Cache District and is building a stronger relationship with Logan District. Katie is planning a meeting with all of the adult education staff in both districts in the area.

Other News: Linda Oda from the Office of Ethnic Affairs expressed amazement the topics presented for discussion. She informed the Consortium that the Office of Ethnic Affairs divides up areas and that some of the topics covered may be best served by involving the person over that area. She also mentioned that

the Office of Ethnic Affairs is charged to work with state agencies to assist them in working with ethnic minority populations. They are not a regulatory department and cannot not affect change or reprimand agencies.

- Fotu Katoa is the Director of Pacific Islander Affairs. His area of focus is incarceration.
- Silvia Thomas is the Director of Hispanic/Latino Affairs and her area is health and business.
- Michael Styles is the Director of Black Affairs. His focus area is business and workforce.
- Linda Oda, Director of Asian Affairs and her area is education and labor commission.

Linda shared with us information about the parent summary held in January. Another conference planned for November 8, 2008 is the direct result of the January conference. Marty expressed an interest in seeing the summary of the outcomes from the summit and would be glad to share them with our adult education directors.

UTopia Up-Date

Marty gave a UTopia update as the end of the year is fast approaching. The majority of the programs are finding the areas that need their attention and the areas that they are succeeding in. They have found that it has increased programs accountability. There were some programs that had very little intensity, but the majority of the programs are doing very well. The data is looking very clean. The UTopia year-end rollover is scheduled and is hoped that it be smooth. 71% of all clients in UTopia have a social security number. That will be good for data matches with DWS and Higher Education.

DWS and Vocation Rehabilitation will have access to the UTopia system. There is not a firm date but they are looking at this fall. Norman, Kathleen, Connie and Russ will need to meet to determine who will need access to this program.

Resubmission of Adult Education Board Rules

Marty reviewed the revisions of the Adult Education and Correction Education Board Rules. The revisions are going before the Board Friday, June 13, 2008. This will be the first and second reading. Credits have been addressed, taking out the old credit requirements and replacing them with the new credit requirements. Licensure has also been addressed. If there are no changes, then the third reading will be in August. Marty will share the revision outcomes after the Board Meeting.

Adult Education Building Block Request for Funding

Marty informed the consortium that adult education put in two building block requests for this coming legislative session. The first request is for adult education to be indexed to the Weighted Pupil Unit. The second building block request is to increase funding for the GED testing centers to make testing centers more available across the state for clients.

CAELA Grant

Sandi told the consortium that adult education applied for a new CAELA grant and were notified last month that they did indeed receive a new grant. Utah was one of twelve recipients. Adult education has utilized the previous grant to implement ESL training in-service. The first meeting of this new grant period is tentatively set for September 15, 2008. Other sessions are in the planning stage. Teachers are reminded that they are invited to attend the CAELA trainings. Most trainings occur on Saturdays. Adult Education can help with stipends and travel. Trainings are also open to ABE teachers.

Katie wanted to know if there would be a chance of bringing the training to regions if they can pull together enough teachers. Sandi asked that she submit her training interests and she would see who would be available to travel to the area to provide the training.

Marty is mindful of the expense of travel, so adult education will be trying to incorporate more webinar/webcast meeting options.

Summer Institute

Shauna shared with the consortium that adult education is reinstating the teacher summer institute. Teachers in the UTopia data base will be sent information. The dates will be August 3-5, 2009. The location will be announced soon. The purpose of summer institute is to provide training that will cause systemic change across the state.

Important upcoming dates

July 10, 2008—DWS State Council to Council meeting at Horizonte—focusing on numeric literacy and basic education. The adult education office will put out the agenda as soon as it is available.

October 9 & 10, 2008 DWS State Council to Council at the Zermatt Resort in Midway

The Directors' meeting has been changed from August to October 7, 2008.

These dates and the dates for the Adult Education Consortium meetings will be posted on the Adult Education website.