

WA Council of High School-College Relations General Member Meeting

Leavenworth, WA October 21-22, 2013

Members and guests in attendance: Wendy Petersen, Kim Hiatt; Bobbi Barnes; Susan Mosby; Bryan Gould; Kiersten Horton; Shannon Carr; Mitzi Sanders; Shelby Johnson; Jami Buselmeier; Jill Orcutt; Lucretia Folks; Valerie Frey; LeAnn Develder; Mike Hubert; Scott Copeland; Jim West; Joanne Houseman; Paul Seegert; Kathy Gaer-Carlton; Ineliz Soto; Ann Parker; Carlos Williams.

Mike Hubert's section in June meeting notes; change to " The Senate budget did not contain additional K-12 monies for teacher salaries". **Motion made** to approve minutes from June meeting. Seconded by Jill Orcutt. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

Executive Board reports: Paul Seegert reminds people that at our June meeting we will be in need of at least two new Executive Board positions. We know we will need an Executive Board Recording Secretary as well as the President Elect position. Members are asked to consider these positions and let members of the Executive Board know if interested.

Treasurer Report: Wendy Petersen: Quick Books online is the tool Wendy is using for tracking our expenditures and revenues. This will eventually be a much more organized and accurate way to track our expenditures and incoming revenue. Our balance is around \$75,000.00 but we have some outstanding invoices which need to be paid. Wendy continues to work with 501 Commons accountant to get the books updated and to follow proper procedures for a non-profit organization.

Old Business: Paul Seegert: Need for and continuation of the Membership fee was discussed at the June, 2013 meeting. Organizations are members, individuals are not. Colleges pay \$150.00 each for membership. Agencies such as OSPI, WSAC etc pay \$100.00 per year. High school member organizations pay \$35.00. Some discussion was held at the last meeting about eliminating the high school membership fee and **our timeline is to make a final decision on this point at the February meeting**. The membership fee does generate income for The Council but collecting it from those who pay member fees for the Fall Counselor Workshop but whose schools are not actually members has proven to be very time consuming and difficult. If we did discontinue the Membership fee we would recapture some of the revenue lost if we increase the fall workshop fee from \$45.00 to \$55.00. Mitzi brings up the benefits of membership and wonders if high school counselors recognize the benefits. Discussion is held which considers everything from making every OSPI recognized high school a member for free to somehow identifying those who have paid membership by a CIP code which would keep those who have not paid membership from registering at member level to having a free trial membership for a year. Having all high schools be a member for free can create an opportunity to re-brand the WA Council for High School College Relations. Shannon suggests a certificate and letter highlighting the benefits (Fall Counselor Workshop and book, Bus Subsidies, 8th grade college exploration day, Fall Transfer Fairs, website, etc.). Question is raised as to whether the benefits exist whether or not there are members (ie; do we have the income do provide these benefits without collecting membership dues)? Between now and the February meeting we can all be thinking about how we should go forward with a proposal. Wendy would like some scenarios written down for

consideration. Shannon is willing to write up the different ideas that people have to be considered at the next meeting.

Agency/Organization Reports/Updates

OSPI: Mike Hubert reporting: Mike opens the floor for questions/concerns about OSPI issues. Shannon said feedback from the Fall Counselor Workshops indicates that there is concern about how counselor evaluations will be done as well as the comment for all the agency presenters that there was too much information and that it would be appreciated to narrow the focus on major issues and allow more time for back and forth discussion. Mike addresses the questions about T-PEP, under statute the counselor evaluation has not changed so there is some frustration for counselors who understand the need for accountability but are not being included in the new evaluation process. When counselor/student ratios continue to be 1/510 there is concern about how a new counselor evaluation should look. Even though the state says it should be 1/299, legislature does not fund at that level. With increasing dual-credit opportunities and efficiency of the delivery of education, the school counselor is in a unique position to be in the forefront of educational reform. When dual-credit opportunities expand, so do the populations they serve. Dual credit programs are an accountability issue for school districts and within that measure is the extent to which underrepresented students are participating. Jill Orcutt brings up the issue that students who arrive at UW Bothell or any other public institution without a graduation date on their transcript will not be eligible for financial aid. She is concerned that students do not seem to be aware of this. Discussion ensues about how to communicate this to students and their families. Mike also mentions the “growth percentile” measurement as an important part of the school report card.

SBCTC: Scott Copeland reporting: Scott speaks to the counselor workshop feedback about the amount of information being given at the workshops. He agrees that there is too much information pulled together from the communications office. The Smarter Balanced Test coming up associated w/the Common Core **may** be utilized as a placement test for community colleges. Scott quotes a report about how effectively students can proceed w/their four year college degree after accruing 40 or more credits from the community college. The report dispels some myths associated w/community college credits such as that it takes longer to complete a four year degree if you begin at a community college or that community college credits do not transfer. The report is available online and Scott will make that information available. Jill Orcutt brings up the issue of Diversity requirement courses and how they are designated on the community college transcript. Each of the four year colleges have such courses required and some are in the general education classes and at EWU they are not all included in the general education requirements so the Direct Transfer Degree will not necessarily guarantee that the diversity course requirement is met. There are seventeen applied baccalaureate degrees available right now at the community colleges and there are forty seven in line for review to be added. These programs are at schools where there is already an AA degree available. Scott reports on the new disabilities task force tasked with helping students with disabilities transition from high school to college. Reciprocity of placement testing existing between community colleges means that if a student

tests at one CC and makes the cut off for Running Start, they can use that score at another college to qualify, even if that other college requires a higher score to qualify.

WSAC: Jim West reporting: The power point delivered at the Fall Counselor Workshops is available online. The Roadmap that WSAC is working on is a ten year master plan for education in WA State. This Roadmap is supposed to be reviewed each year. WSAC has to get their written document to the legislature in December. The number one priority is to increase the amount of money available for WA State Need Grant so that there is full funding of this program. Other issues WSAC is addressing include State/Student cost sharing formula; College and Career readiness; increased support for guidance and mentoring. Ready Set Grad.org is the website for students grades 6 to college and beyond which will have links to the many resources available to guide students through the educational process.

Day Two:

Members and guests in attendance are the same as yesterday.

8th Grade College Exploration Day- Kim Hiatt: EWU 3/25, Pierce CC 3/26, Green River CC 3/28, Renton Tech 4/4 and then possibly reaching out to Heritage or Yakima Valley CC, Spokane or possibly Cascadia or UW Bothell. The request is made for mileage reimbursement for those members of the commission for travel to train the trainer. They are also requesting to maintain the \$1000.00 per site. There were six sites last year and this year were hoping to expand by 2 more sites. Kathy requests an email from Kim to explain expenditures for approval via email. Wendy suggests a ceiling amount be set which we could then vote on right now.

Motion made by Kathy to approve mileage reimbursement and per site expenses not to exceed \$8000.00 in total' Seconded by Susan Mosby. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

Another goal for 2014 is to survey the participants of these 8th Grade College Planning Days to determine the demographics and socio-economic status of the participants. Also, is there a pre and post assessment to measure effectiveness of this event for students? There is a post assessment but so far not a pre-assessment. Leian Develder talks about how powerful the data would be if we could actually measure the efficacy of the information at 8th grade planning day being one of the important experiences the 8th graders in our state be exposed to. Mike Hubert affirms this need for data to support programs.

College Planning Days: Kiersten Horton reporting: Bus subsidies are coordinated by Kiersten. We are looking for a new person on the commission who will be the contact who sets up the the sites including contacting the different sites, organizing meetings w/host sites, etc. Many of the sites have the same contact people who are familiar w/the event. Scott Copeland brings up the issue of whether or not Running Start students have the information about such things as the College Planning Days and also college rep visits. How are they being connected w/recruitment efforts? Valerie Frey said at her CC Running Start students have access to the same counseling staff as the other students.

Fall High School Counselor Workshops: Shannon Carr reporting: There were nine events. We went to EventBrite credit card only payment which went well. For the first time we have an exact amount we collected for these events. We brought in 928 registrants; 886 actually participated in the events. We did register some same day participants. Total expenses were just over \$22,000.00 with one site still unreconciled. Clock hours revenue was \$2793.00 of the 5187.00 that went to AWSP. We made approx 14 K and net is about 7K after all expenditures. This money then helps support our 8th grade college planning days and bus subsidies. Mike Hubert wonders if clock hours should be provided by the Washington School Counseling Assn instead of AWSP and asks Ann Parker to look into this as the WSCA representative on the Council.

Evaluations included very limited negative feedback re: new registration process (ie not accepting po's). Lucreita brings up the issue of people waiting until the last two weeks before signing up. Shelby Johnson mentions logistics of why this is. Business offices won't pay until school starts and then counselors are typically devoting their full attention to student registration. There was a lot of feedback about doing a "hot topic" session. (ie one thing you are doing at your school that is innovative/particularly effective to connect your students to college). Requests to have agency power point preloaded on a thumb drive. Paul Seegert says if we could just get them on the web the day of it would be great. Jim West mentions that the WSAC pen/thumb drive is \$5.00 each and respondents were clear that they want both, print workshop book and electronic.

Proposal: We will start Fall Counselor Workshop Tour Sept. 15 –Sept 19 and Sept. 22-Sept 25 and that would take us through the first week of classes at the public universities. The one site this may prove problematic for is Wenatchee Valley College because classes will have begun.

Shannon will be taking over the role of WCHSCR President in June so will need to pass on her portion of co- chairing the Fall Workshop Commission. Duties include: Coordinating all of the host sites, facilitating host site conf. call; attending as many workshop sites as possible, managing event site registration and reconciling the payments. Bryan Gould coordinates all the presenters and he will maintain that role. Most of the legwork for the 2014 fall counselor workshops will be done so this will be a good year to transition. **Shannon would like to have a person in place by the February council meeting.**

Transfer-Advisor Workshops-Jill Orcutt: 55 participants held at Green River CC Center. Last year the council gave \$200 for refreshments and Jill would like to request that again. Another thought is to get the workshop recorded or even a webinar Shannon Carr suggests (bridge capable room video feed). The feedback is positive and it would be great to reach more college counselors. Paul Seegert wonders about charging for it. No cost other than refreshment right now but if we add the media component there may be technical support necessary which may cost some money.

Motion made to continue \$200.00 for refreshments for the Transfer Advisors Workshop. Shannon seconds. Ayes have it. Motion passes.

ICRC: Jim West reporting: ICRC began in 1970 and was the initiator of DTA. Oct 10 and 11 there was a conference at CWU. Use of People Soft at the state level will necessitate changes in the articulation

changes at the baccalaureates. Wendy wonders if there are steps being taken to help the baccalaureates who are already utilizing People Soft to reconfigure articulation changes.

Road Map Project- (Kiersten) Avery-Non profit organization. Cradle to college and career focus. Collective impact wishes to work with greater communication and alignment among all the players in the educational life of the child. Now working in South Seattle and South King County. There is a lot of mobility in this area. (20%). Why the project? The need for postsecondary degree/education/training- two year, four year and certificates are included. The adult pop of seattle have a high concentration of BA or higher degree but as far as students living in the region, that is not going to be the case unless educational interventions and supports occur. Road Map Project would like to double number of students who are on track to graduate from colleges by 2020 and to close the achievement gaps for low income students of color and increasing achievement for all students from cradle to college readiness and success.

Collective action at work: alignment to the 2020 goal; alignment to different strategies; alignment to funding

Parent power: parent engagement is very important: parent as first teacher, parent as advocate

Power of data: data is important to measure continuous improvement, what works and what doesn't, sharing what works with all the partners.

System support improvement

This project began 3 years ago with identifying indicators of student success. Then a baseline report was completed and a plan was made to reach the goal by 2020. Educators, parents, government, students, business and industry, community are all at the table.

High School to College Completion Work Group: tasked w/developing a strategic action plan to improve college readiness and postsecondary completion throughout the Road Map Project. List of High School to College Related Indicators as well as other information is available on the website.

Powerful Strategies include: early warning indicator systems, opportunity youth, stronger course taking, removing financial barriers, college placement policies and course redesign, college orientation, advising and guidance for recent high school grads.

Start strong, stem strong and stay strong. Stay strong emphasizes full integration of the High School and Beyond Plan. Suggestion is to begin this process in 8th grade. Also the Dream Project/counselor assistants to support high need middle and high schools. Have all students take the readistep and psat and sat for all during the school day. (Race to the Top grant monies pay for this in some cases and in some cases the district is picking up the tab for testing).

Opportunity Youth are students not connected to school or work including those who graduated w/gpa below 2.0 who are not working. Open Doors (state policy which allows usage of k-12 student basic ed funding to re-engage these students).

Parent Engagement: community network steering committee is dealing with polling parents about how comfortable they are with their ability to support their child's learning within the education system, how many believe their school provides welcoming and culturally responsive learning environment and how many have leadership and influence in making decisions at their school. Poll will be delivered in multiple languages.

Advocacy: local level policy and state level policy.

Avery asks for comments from the floor as to what advocacy issues Council members may see: grad date needed for financial aid; summer melt (students who have been accepted and say they are going to go to college but do not show up) and maybe some of this is tied into verification on the fafsa and not attending to that timely; many comments regarding the necessity for financial aid/college debt/use of credit/financial literacy; reinstatement of Readiness to Learn; professional development for teachers in relation to working w/culture of poverty.

RoadMapProject.org is the website for this project.

Diversity and Equity: Leiann Develder reporting: The Road Map Project was part of the Diversity College Tracking data services by the BERC group. www.collegetracking.com

As we attempt to close the opportunity gap there are ways to get the data to support the need and then look to see what practices are available to provide more effective delivery of services to under-represented youth in our post secondary institutions. Jim West suggests that Mike, Scott and himself can put together a list of valid, accurate, reliable data for us to utilize to be presented at the February meeting.

General Membership: Susan Mosby reporting: Susan will work w/Lucretia and Chadd about how to access an accurate list of current members. Susan calls for at least one to join this commission because Susan is chairing this commission on her own.

Dual Credit: Valerie Frey reporting: Fall Running Start Coordinators Meeting will be held next week in Spokane Falls. They would like to have more high school counselors at the meeting so they can get the information directly from the Running Start coordinators. There are 10 sites throughout the western side of the state which will be attending electronically.

Thursday February 27 and Friday February 28 are dates for our spring meeting. We will utilize the Holiday Inn Express in Lacey for hotel and meeting.

Meeting adjourns @ 11:30am.