

# Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

MC Office of Education, Bldg M  
632 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced, CA

Wednesday, June 17, 2009 – 3:30 p.m.

## Meeting Notes



<http://web.co.merced.ca.us/wi/youth/meetingpkts/meetingpkts.html>

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**Members Present:** Martha Dueñas, Debbie Glass (Chair), Alexander Hall, Mary Jane Hawkes, Richard Mahacek, Holly Newlon, Vann (Mike) Smith

**Members Absent:** Stephanie Busbea, Bob Bittner, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Patricia Evans, Taide Hernandez, Henry Ildefonso, Nancy A. Silva, Rick Osorio, Edgar Perez

**Others Present:** John Fowler, Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza, Atenas Vallejo

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1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair, Ms. Debbie Glass, noted the regular meeting would be canceled due to lack of quorum. The Chair convened a workgroup at 4:05 p.m. to discuss the agenda items. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.

2. Public Opportunity to speak: None

3. Announcements:

Ms. Martha Dueñas noted approximately 6 youth were hired through the Summer Youth Program to work at the Employment Development Department (EDD). The youth are being trained to assist in the workshops for the Hire A Youth Program (HAY). The HAY program is designed to assist youth who are not eligible for the WIA Summer Youth Program.

Ms. Wendy Lomeli has accepted a full-time position at the Modesto EDD office.

Mr. Alexander Hall noted Summer Camps have started at several schools throughout the City. Approximately 40 youth will be hired through the Summer Youth Program to assist as Summer Camp counselors.

Mr. John Fowler noted he attended a State conference meeting regarding legislation on early childhood education. He also attended the BEAM meeting.

Ms. Mary Jane Hawkes noted Castle Challenger Learning Center received a grant from NASA to provide training to students in science. The training will be in partnership with Merced County Office of Education. Summer Camp has started at the Challenger Learning Center, and will run for 2 weeks.

Ms. Debbie Glass noted Merced Adult School had its graduation ceremony. Over 270 students completed either their GED or High School requirements, with 85 students attending the graduation ceremony. She noted that it was a success.

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Mr. Richard Machacek noted Merced County UC Cooperative Extension had a Youth Development survey for teenagers last year. He will share the results at the August meeting. He will be working with Youth Opportunity Program students in July.

### 4. Action Agenda:

a. Youth Council Membership – Nancy Vega-Mendoza: This item will be available at the next meeting.

### 5. Presentation:

a. California Army National Guard: Sgt Robert Bender noted he represents the National Guard in Merced and Los Banos. His goal is to recruit as many potential youth to join the National Guard. The National Guard has a new program called GED Plus, and it's available to potential candidates who don't have a GED or High School Diploma and want to join the National Guard. The program consists of enrolling candidates into a two-week training program at a Military College in Little Rock, AR to earn their GED. After they receive their GED, they continue with training. Once the youth finishes training, they start to work for the National Guard. If they continue with their education and stay in college, they receive \$1,200.00 per month. So far, 179 youth have applied for the National Guard, 79 have taken the test, only 12 have passed all the requirements necessary to join the National Guard.

b. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program: Rescheduled for next meeting.

c. Job Corps Female: Rescheduled for next meeting.

### 6. Reports:

a. Youth Resource Directory Ad-Hoc Committee Update: Staff noted Merced College was selected to print the Youth Resource Directory. Approximately 3,390 copies will be available for distribution, and it will also be available online. The goal is to have all Directories printed and available by the next Youth Council meeting. If you would like to place an order, please contact Mr. Alfredo Mendoza, 724-2044.

b. Summer Youth Update: Ms. Bernedette Castaneda noted the Summer Youth Program is in full force. There are 400 out-of school applications completed and eligible for work. So far, 79 youth are working. Following are the projects and sites for the 2009 Summer Youth Program:

City of Merced, Russ McGarry Rental Property Management, Planada Community Services, Planada Beautification, and HSA Foster Youth Assistant.

### 7. Information Agenda:

a. Youth Council Resignation-Kathy Hassett: Ms. Kathy Hassett resigned from the Youth Council, effective May 2009.

8. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: The Chair, noted she is excited to being the Youth Council Chair. She asked members to refocus on the Mission Statement, and bring some ideas to share as to what else might this Council do for the youth in Merced County. Staff will start a list of ideas to involve youth. At a future Youth Council meeting, members will brainstorm and decide what ideas should be implemented.

Future Agenda Items: Ms. Holly Newlon will provide an update on the MCOE youth programs. Staff noted Mr. Samuel Rangel and Ms. Stephani Martinez have resigned from the Youth Council. These two

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information items will be added to the next meeting agenda. Mr. Richard Mahacek will provide the results of last year's Teen Summit survey at the August meeting.

9. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: July 15, 2009, 3:30 p.m., Merced County Office of Education, Newbold Room, 632 W 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced.

10. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.