

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

Merced Office of Education (MCOE)

632 W. 13th Street, Merced 95340 - J2 Room

Wednesday, December 15, 2010, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes



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

Members Present: Robert Bittner, Claudia Corchado, John Fowler, Debbie Glass, Carol Greenberg, Mary Jane Hawkes, Christine Kulina, Richard Mahacek, Paula Mason, Nellie McGarry, Holly Newlon, Rhonda Walton

Members Absent: Melissa Abby, Baljit Gill, Atenas Vallejo

Others Present: Adrian Anguiano, Jessica Garibay, Claudia Guerrero, Nancy Havens, John Keane, Solie Magsalay, Toula Moua, Jackie Walther-Parnell

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair, Ms. Debbie Glass, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Roll call was taken.
2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Newlon/Fowler* to approve the agenda with the addition of the informational item *Timeline for In-School and Out-of-School Youth Request for Proposal*.
3. Approve Minutes: It was *M/S/C Hawkes/Newlon* to approve the October 20, 2010 minutes as published. *Walton/Fowler/Greenberg* abstained.
4. Public Opportunity to Speak: Ms. Toula Moua, Career Educator for the Youth Opportunity Program/EMPOWER/Bridges to Success (BTS)/California Green Jobs Corp, introduced Ms. Claudia Guerrero, a student from the BTS Medical Program, and Mr. Adrian Anguiano, a student from the BTS Automotive Program.
5. Presentation:
 - a. Bridges to Success: Mr. John Keane provided information on what the BTS program has provided to students for insuring their success. Ms. Guerrero and Mr. Anguiano each presented to the Youth Council their experiences in the BTS program. Council members asked the youth how the programs affected their lives; both youth provided positive feedback.
6. Announcements (Roundtable): Business Education Alliance of Merced (BEAM) is continuing with its focus on early care and education. BEAM also is currently working on the WorkKeys Project. Meetings are being held at high schools and with workforce investment boards throughout the Central Valley who have been utilizing WorkKeys to compile information on their experience with using the software in hopes of getting schools and businesses throughout Merced County interested in using WorkKeys.

Superintendent Lee Andersen's retirement dinner was last Thursday at the fairgrounds. Steve Gomes, Superintendent Elect, took oath of office yesterday at a private ceremony for MCOE employees and family. Mr. Gomes will take his job on January 30th at 12:01 a.m. Four priorities of Mr. Gomes are: raising academic achievement for all students, the outdoor school, early care and education, and the Regional Occupational Program (ROP).

The Worknet One-Stop has moved to 1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced. It is functional as of last Monday. The Resource Center still needs to be completed; however, computers are available in all of the labs. The Large Conference Room has become the main resource area for the One-Stop. Parking has improved for customers at the Wardrobe location. A total of eighty-one parking spaces are available. Ms. Joanne Presnell is retiring at the end of the month.

United Way is having a coat, blanket, and canned food drive. There is a high demand for toddler coats.

The Merced Adult School's Spring Catalog is available.

In November, the Housing Authority handed out approximately 90 Thanksgiving baskets to needy families. Approximately 300 toys were donated for the Toys for Tots toy drive.

The Challenger Learning Center is in the 2nd year of its NASA grant; fifth grade teachers were trained in the first year and now 8th grade teachers from the same school are being trained. With a \$7500 grant from Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) of Minneapolis, 55 Hispanic girls were able to participate in programs at Challenger. After sending their report back to PBS, Challenger was 1 of 8 groups asked to reapply for a grant and to consider having a summer camp for girls. Challenger staff commends both Planada and Le Grand schools for providing school buses for the girls' transportation to the Challenger site. Challenger received a grant from Wal-Mart to assist in covering costs not covered by the NASA grant. Challenger also received a small grant from AT&T. Challenger was 1 of 6 sites selected by NASA for setting up communication from Challenger to NASA on the date of the last shuttle launch. A group from Cruickshank Middle School will be able to ask astronauts questions before the launch. Challenger will have a fundraiser on Friday, February 25th. Individuals from NASA will be present at the fundraiser and there is a possibility astronauts will be present as well. Members were asked to attend.

Christine Kulina attended a meeting at the Job Corps Corporate office in San Jose where they nominated youth programs that have made a difference. One of the programs nominated was Knockout Dog Fighting, which is a youth prevention program. For additional information on the program, the program's website is www.knockoutdogfighting.org. Job Corps male admissions is full, and there is a 1-1 ½ year waiting list for females.

The Master Gardner program is getting ready to offer workshops for community organizations who want to establish a community garden. 4-H will be providing training in Merced, and several sites throughout the State of California for its Science, Engineering and Technology Program. The topic of the training in Merced will be on Robotics and will be held on Saturday, February 5th at the UC Cooperative Extension, 2145 Wardrobe Ave. The Water Drop Project is ending. School and youth groups create a picture on a water drop template (available online). A logo or the group name is placed on the water drop before it is laminated. The water drop is sent to a research team in Antarctica and the school/youth group follows a blog online and waits until the water drop appears in one of the pictures on the blog. The project website is: <http://iceaged2010.mlml.calstate.edu/water-drop/>

Ms. Rhonda Walton introduced herself. She retired from the County after 31 years of service, and is glad to be back.

7. Discussion/Possible Action:

- a. Marketing for Youth Programs – Best Venues (How to get the word out): Ideas were discussed on

- how marketing should be aimed at businesses and not students, since there is currently a waiting list to enroll in the youth programs. Ms. Claudia Corchado agreed to draft a postcard to be distributed to businesses at different events, and Ms. Rhonda Walton agreed to work on a press release along with Ms. Holly Newlon and/or Mr. John Keane.
- b. How to Acknowledge Business Participation: Options to acknowledge businesses that support youth programs were discussed. Discussion will continue at the next meeting regarding how much outreach funding is available through the youth programs and a list of businesses that support the youth programs.
 - c. Communication - Flow of Information: Any information Youth Council members wish to be distributed to the Council should be sent to Youth Council staff for distribution to all members and/or interested parties.
 - d. Youth Council Calendar: It was *M/S/C McGarry/Mahacek* to approve the 2011 Calendar Year meeting schedule and forward to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for approval. Members were asked if they would like to host any of the Youth Council meetings at their facilities. The February meeting will be held at the Challenger Learning Center and the April meeting will be held at the United Way.
8. Reports:
- a. Youth Council Fiscal Reports: A copy of the reports was included in the meeting packet.
 - b. CWA Annual Youth Conference - Long Beach January 18-20, 2011: Mr. John Fowler and Ms. Claudia Corchado will be attending the conference; however, there is a need for one additional member to volunteer to attend the conference as well.
9. Information:
- a. YouthBuild Program (Housing Authority): On December 3, 2010 the Department of Workforce Investment (WI) submitted a grant application for the Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor competitive grant funds for the YouthBuild Grant, a youth and community development program.
 - b. Bridges to Success: The Department of Labor's goal for spending ARRA funds was 70% spent by September 30, 2010. The State of California's expenditure rate barely exceeded the 70 percent goal. Therefore, on October 12, 2010 a corrective action plan was submitted, and WI and MCOE have exceeded their planned expenses for the at-risk youth.
 - c. Timeline for In-School and Out-of-School Youth Request for Proposal (RFP): The meeting packet provided a timeline for the RFP reflecting the important dates for the process. The combined cost of the new programs is estimated to be \$1 million for FY 2011-12.
10. Chair Comments/Future Agenda Items: The Chair asked if members were in agreement to email new member applications to current members for review instead of waiting two months until the next meeting so as to shorten the process of approval for new members to join the Council. New member applications will be emailed. If, by a certain date, there is no response from any current member, the Youth Council meeting will be bypassed and the new member application will be forwarded directly to the WIB's Executive Committee for approval. If there is any objection to an applicant becoming a member of the Council, it will be brought before the Council to be discussed.
11. Date/Time/Location of Next Meeting: February 16, 2011, Challenger Learning Center, 3553 Challenger Way, Atwater, CA 95301, Einstein Room.
12. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.