**Advisory Council Meeting**

**November 17, 2022**

**10 am**

**Called to Order:** Barbara Hamilton called the meeting of the Arkansas Adult Education Advisory Council to order at 10:08 am.

**Members present**: Barbara Hamilton, Dr. Debbie Faubus-Kendrick, Dorissa Kaufman, Casson Brock, LaRhonda Fulcher, Bill Ritter, Carol Birth, Tammie Lemmons, Marsha Taylor, Nancy Leonhardt

**State Staff present:** Dr. Trenia Miles, LaJuana Delph, Bridget Criner, Dianne Doyle, Michael Judge

**Web Grants Update (Bridget)**- The web grants pilot began November 16, 2022 with 7 adult education programs. The ETA for official rollout is 23-24 program year.

1. **Statewide Open House Discussion (All**)- It is an expectation that all centers participate in Open House. The next Statewide Open House is scheduled for September 21, 2023, 11 am-1 pm. Acknowledgments were made regarding centers receiving flyers late; however, it’s advised centers create their own flyers with awareness of next year’s date in the event flyers are not provided in advance. Legislatures should be invited in advance.
2. **Distance Learning Update (Michael Judge)**- Michael Judge presented information containing adult education enrollment and MSGs for 2018-2022, distance learning enrollment and MSGs for 2018-2022, and Essential Ed information for 2018-2022 for all adult education programs.
3. **Virtual Academy (Miles)** –Virtual Academy is an online high school program for students which offers CTE opportunities for their online students. The state is currently exploring opportunities to partner with them to offer instruction for the students’ parents and online certifications for adult education students. The course can possibly be established as an IET. Certifications can be paid for thru the WAGE program.

Programs currently offered:

Business and Marketing

Finance

Technology

Agriculture

Construction

Law of Public Safety & Corrections

Health Sciences

Family and Consumer Science

1. **BoardWorks and WorkReady Pilots (Field and Marsha)-**

WorkReady Mobile is a platform similar to Remind 101 with more features that will allow student communication. BoardWorks is a platform where teachers can access lesson plans and videos.

1. **GED Testing Cost Increase (Doyle and Miles)-** Dianne Doyle presented information on the number of repeated GED test takers. GED test cost will increase July 1, 2023, and the number of retakes allotted will decrease to 1 free retake instead of the current 2.

Dr. Casson Brock asked when vouchers would be received. Dianne Doyle advised they should be received any day.

In Central Arkansas, test administrators give graduation information after test takers pass their final test in hopes to increase graduation participation. Content area training teachers have been asked to give students the tutorials on GED.com to help reduce test anxiety.

1. **WAGE Executive Committee Meeting (Delph)-** The Executive WAGE Committee meet on the 2nd Friday of every month.

Curriculum Committee- The Adult Education State staff is the chair and a representative from the field acts as co-chair. Currently reviewing the necessity of having a 535 to earn the WAGE Level 2.

Workforce Preparation and Development Committee’s responsibility is seamlessly moving students from orientation to completion.

Student Support Services Committee’s main goal is to communicate to the field that SNAP and TANF Coordinators should be working together to meet clients’ and learners needs.

ESL Committee tasked with bridging the gap with ESL students and WAGE. Currently doing a content comparison between Aztec, Essential Ed, and Burlington English to make recommendations to the Curriculum Committee.

Corrections Committee is planning a Spring Reentry Meeting.

WAGE 201 training course is more concentrated on the curriculum for Level 2. WAGE scholarships will have an online application in the 23-24 program year. There have been 1532 certificates distributed since the beginning of the WAGE program.

1. **Alternative Sentencing (Debbie)**

Several programs are interested in an Alternative Sentencing Program. Programs will need written support from the judge and prosecuting attorney. There are special project funds available.

1. **Legislative Luncheon update (Debbie and Marsha)**- Legislative Luncheon will be held at the Capitol Hill Building February 1, 2023, at 10 am. Dr. Debbie Faubus-Kendrick suggested each center decorate a table with their Adult Ed. Program information; Dorissa Kaufman also suggested placing rack cards on each table.
2. **AACAE Conference Update (Dorissa)**

-253 registered guess

-216 paid memberships

-A motion to increase membership dues up to $200 was approved during the business meeting, however, the AACAE board discussed gradually increasing membership dues in steps, i.e., $150 next year.

 11. **Request from the field:**

* How to document WAGE in LACES: The state will host two webinars on documenting WAGE, certificates, and IET credentials in LACES. The Credentials and Certification webinar is scheduled for November 30th at 9am and 1pm.