

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.  
OF  
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES**

Youth Committee Meeting  
June 2, 2022  
3:00pm  
YJATC Office

Committee Members Present:	Ed Emerick
Committee Members Absent:	Roger Beltz, Joe Caruso, Michelle Fitzsimmons, Kyle Kiraly, and Sharon Woodberry
WDB Member:	Scott Satterlee
Board Staff:	Mary Ann Kochalko and Sharlene Senediak.
CCMEP Lead Agency Staff:	Tonya Hawkins, Susie Kooser, Leigh Samargia-Pflug, and Angela Vollberg

Ed Emerick, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05pm. A quorum was not established, and an informational meeting was held.

**Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

The 9.2.21 Youth Committee meeting minutes will be tabled until the next meeting.

**Youth Committee Membership**

Scott Satterlee, the IBEW representative on the WDB, is interested in joining the Youth Committee. Since a quorum has not been established, his appointment to the Youth Committee will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval. Committee membership will be reviewed, and individuals from appropriate agencies will be contacted to determine their interest in joining the committee.

**Modification of Current Youth Services Contracts / Issuance of New Youth Services Contracts**

*Issuance of New Youth Services Contracts*

An RFP was developed and issued jointly by the Board and MCTA to procure the required 14 WIOA youth elements within the Comprehensive Case Management and Opportunity Program (CCMEP). Seven proposals were submitted in response to the RFP. The proposal review committee scored all the proposals, and based on the results, six were recommended to the Executive Committee for approval. All recommended proposals were approved by the Executive Committee, and contracts were entered into with the following agencies: Academy for Urban Scholars - Youngstown, Columbiana County Educational Service Center, Compass Family & Community Services, The Counseling Center of Columbiana County, Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley, and Utica Shale Academy of Ohio. The new contracts will begin July 1, 2022.

*Modification of Current Youth Services Contracts*

At the May 19<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting, the wage for the youth work experience was increased from \$10 per hour to \$13 per hour. Given this increase, the current youth services contracts with Compass Family & Community Services and The Counseling Center of Columbiana County will need to be modified. The modifications will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Review of CCMEP Activity Report and Success Stories**

As of May 31, 2022, Area 17 has approximately 467 active participants enrolled in CCMEP. The count is an estimate since reports cannot be generated from the State's new case management system at this time. Based on this estimate, the number of participants is slightly down compared to this time last year. New enrollments and the number of participants in job readiness are approximately at the same level compared to last year. The number of participants in work experience has increased by forty-eight compared to last year; this is largely due to pandemic-related restrictions being lifted. The number of participants who

attained their high school diploma or equivalency more than doubled compared to last year. Seven participants completed post-secondary training, and unsubsidized job placements are down eighteen compared to last year.

Given the demographics in each county, Mahoning County usually serves more out-of-school youth, whereas Columbiana County serves more in-school youth.

A general overview of CCMEP was provided. The overview explained how youth can be eligible for the program – most low-income youth ages 14-24 with barriers are eligible. Once in the program, an Individual Opportunity Plan (IOP) is developed. Depending on the participant's goal, 14 service elements are made available to help the participant either gain employment, enter post-secondary education, or enlist in the military.

#### *Columbiana County Success Story*

Utica Shale Academy offers a credit recovery program to help participants graduate. Fifteen CCMEP participants recently graduated, and MCTA was able to help with tutoring, mentoring, and transportation. Without Utica Shale Academy and CCMEP services, these fifteen participants would not have graduated from high school.

#### *Mahoning County Success Story*

Since Mahoning County has more out-of-school youth, many of the successes focus on participants graduating from post-secondary training. Getting participants re-engaged in services is also a success for MCTA staff. Many participants who have re-engaged in the CCMEP have enrolled into post-secondary training programs.

#### **County Updates**

Outreach efforts for out-of-school youth remain a strong focus. Billboards are active through July, and signage continues to be displayed on WRTA buses and on CARTS vehicles. An 8-week radio campaign has been running on LOUD 102.3, and an outreach campaign through TV, apps, and streaming services has been implemented.

#### **Member Updates/Other Business**

*Next Meeting* – The next Youth Committee is scheduled for September 1, 2022, at 3pm.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.