

**St. Louis Metropolitan Children's Agenda
Regional Youth Employment Strategy Work Group
SUBCOMMITTEE #2: CAREER DEVELOPMENT
November 12, 2002**

1. Subcommittee members in attendance:

John Oldani (joldani@csd.org)

Gail Stewart (gastewart@rgsd.org)

RosanneVrugtman (vrugtmanr@msx.umsl.edu)

2. Identify additional stakeholders:

Need to get other schools involved in YES, especially guidance counselors, A+ coordinators, etc., since it is more difficult for classroom teachers to attend outside meetings.

Also need more participation from area employers, especially those who already provide career exploration/career learning activities

3. Identify what is currently being done in the region (new or additional information):

Riverview HS (also SLPS/Barb Howard) met with Bill Nash (McCarthy) after last subcommittee meeting re future programs. Current program may be a better fit with middle schools, but could be adapted for high school students.

Also: Paul Mackay is involved with "Project Lead the Way," a high school level pre-engineering program offered as a 5-session course through SLCC-Flo Valley.

May need to begin using term "career development" instead of "career education" to describe our activities.

4. Specific Action:

Possible future programs/activities identified include:

- "Shadowing Prep" program to enhance 2003 Groundhog Job Shadow activities
- Bill Gates Foundation
- US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training "WANTO" grant (intended to encourage women to enter non-traditional occupations)
- MIT Initiative
(see brief description below; also: <http://hkn.mit.edu/act-women.html>)

The MIT Women's Initiative Program is aimed at increasing the number of women pursuing careers in science and engineering. During the month of January enthusiastic women from the School of Engineering at MIT visit high schools nationwide to speak with high school girls about the

excitement of careers in engineering. Presentations include activities to engage students in thinking about engineering concepts, demonstrations of projects on which the presenters have worked, and information about the fields in engineering and the life of an engineering student.

The primary objectives of the Women's Initiative are to:

- 1. To encourage high school girls to pursue studies and careers in Engineering*
- 2. Empower and motivate high school girls to take the most challenging math and science courses in high school*
- 3. Teach students about what the field of engineering entails and dispel common stereotypes*
- 4. Educate and share experiences with other institutions and groups who wish to start similar programs*

Group discussed possibility of RCEW hosting a facilitated meeting end of January (4th week, 1:30-3:00 pm?) for area high school counselors, coordinators, others. Purpose of the meeting would be to get input from a broader audience regarding what is being done and what is needed. Specifically, the program would ask: "What is your single greatest need in the area of career education for your students?" (e.g., computers, exploration activities, training, skill/interest assessments, community-wide resources, etc.) If group can agree on greatest need, YES, CSD and/or other collaborative entities may be able to focus on finding resources, including grant funding.

5. Develop action plans to address needs:

Need more input from other subcommittee members before proceeding.

6. Identify resources or help you need from other subcommittees:

Need more input from other subcommittee members before proceeding.

7. Identify information and data needs:

Need more input from other subcommittee members before proceeding.

8. Identify primary agenda items and assignments for next meeting:

Rosanne will discuss with RCEW Director and notify other committee members via email. More input is needed from other subcommittee members and larger YES group before major commitment can be made to hold meeting. CSD will assist with notifications when meeting plans are finalized.