St. Louis Metropolitan Children’s Agenda
Regional Youth Employment Strategy Work Group

Tasks for Subcommittee #2_
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Meeting Date: 7/28/02

ATTENDEES: Liz Clemensen, Paul Mackay, David Farache, Walter Logan, Dennis Dorsey, Rosanne Vrugtman

PURPOSE
The purpose of this meeting was to discuss additional ideas and next steps for “…implementing a comprehensive career education system of K-16 education and career pathways” (see Subcommittee #2, Action Step #3, Y.E.S. Comprehensive Plan).

SUMMARY: The main outcome of the meeting was:
1. Ideas for implementation of the Model Guidance plan for Missouri and the Education to Careers (ETC) plan for Illinois (see ideas listed below); and
2. Consensus that all subcommittee activities aimed at implementation must be tied very clearly to state standards and high stakes state assessments (i.e., MAP).

ACTION STEP IDEAS: The following implementation ideas were formed during brainstorming by the subcommittee:

1. Tie to national job shadowing activities for 2003 (especially Groundhog Job Shadow Day in February) or other statewide career exploration plans
2. “Market” the idea to key stakeholders: youth, parents, educators, employers; have the subcommittee function as a “marketing team”
3. Find ways to engage specific industries and educate employers about Show-Me and ETC standards
4. Sponsor/host/collaborate on activities that engage students and show a connection to state standards
5. Build "standards language" into all activities, flyers, etc.
6. Connect with existing agencies and programs (i.e., Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education at UM-St. Louis; internship project with Genome Sequencing Center at Washington University, St. Louis Regional Healthcare Partners Career Fair, St. Charles County’s “Counselor Day,” etc.) to promote ongoing grant-funded activities
7. Offer a teacher/staff in-service as a CSD training/outreach function
8. Find existing curricula which can be used to create meaningful learning that is clearly tied to state standards
9. Organize activities in terms of short, median, and long-term implementation
10. Begin by looking at standards and bringing together a group of people familiar with them who can educate and engage others
11. Work through professional associations, especially those related to healthcare, machinists, carpentry, hospitality and others with acute workforce needs

Submit copy of meeting notes to Jim Duane at the RCEW
12. Identify outstanding schools in the region that already have cross-referenced career-related learning activities with state standards, and/or which are already doing a good job of implementing the plan.

13. Design programs to counteract negative impressions some hold of “vocational-technical” programs; instead of vo-tech language, focus on “infusing industry partnerships into curriculum to meet state standards.”

14. Devote an issue of *St. Louis Careers Illustrated* (Metro Vocational-Technical Cooperative publication) to programs that connect career education curriculum with state standards.

15. Promote technical education along with higher education through job shadowing and other activities.

16. Conduct attitude research or identify results of research already done regarding career education, including vocational training.

17. Focus on a simple approach in which “less is more”; identify two main priorities and concentrate on creating and building on small successes in those areas.

18. Contact Illinois State Board of Education (ISB), DESE, CSD, and other entities to identify best practices for connecting career curricula to state standards; follow up with calls if needed.

19. Plan to attend and present at the ACTE 2003 Summer Conference.

20. Establish specific action steps and measurable goals as indicators of success of subcommittee efforts.

**NEXT STEPS**

*Important!* Group members agreed to email the facilitator (vruigtmanr@msx.umsl.edu) their ideas for action steps and goals (see #20 above), so these can be compiled before the next meeting. The group also discussed others who should be invited to participate in the subcommittee: Judy Larson, Randy Dillon, Brenda Russell, others?

**NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, September 10th, (10:00-11:00 a.m.) at the RCEW’s Partnership Conference Center (UM-St. Louis Campus, 8225 Florissant Rd.) following the next Y.E.S. meeting at 8:30-10:00 a.m. At the next meeting, the group may want to discuss action steps and goals, as well as the letter to ISB, DESE, CSD.

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