

WSRC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES*Friday, November 4th, 2022**9:00am to 10:52am*

Members Present: Erica Wollen, Workforce Training Representative, Olympia
Laurae MacClain, Tribal VR Representative, Nespelam
Michele Stelovich, Labor Representative, Bellingham
Peggy Frisk, Council Chair, Community Rehabilitation Provider, Lake Stevens
Jennifer Bean, Client Assistance Program, Bellingham
Jen Chong-Jewell, Parent Advocate, Everett
Lesa Dunphy, DVR Counselor Representative, Ex-Officio, Colville
Matt Newton, Business Representative, Tacoma
Alexandra Toney, OSPI Representative, Olympia

Members

Absent: Edward Nicholson, Business Representative, Vancouver
Terry Redmon, DVR Director, Ex-Officio, Lacey
Dion Graham, State Independent Living Council Representative, Union

Council Staff: Shelby Satko, WSRC Executive Director, Lacey
Jolie Ramsey, WSRC Executive Lead, Lacey

Visitors: Amy Lystad, DVR RTC, Tumwater
Aimee Elber, DVR Transition Consultant
Alex Diseth, NW Center
Allesandria Goard, DVR Chief of Field Services
Angela Merritt, DVR Community Program Manager
Ann Martin, Region 2 Administrator
Bonnie Vintin, DVR, Omak
Brandon Sheldon, DVR Administrative Regulation Analysis
David Stewart, DVR Supervisor, North Seattle
Deona Koberstein, DVR Regional Training Specialist
Doug Burkhalter, Client Assistance Program
Francis Gathenya, DVR Transition Consultant
Jamie Rasmussen, DVR Supervisor, Kennewick
Jayson Morris
Jeanese Hime, DVR Program Coordinator

Joanne Ogg, DVR Supervisor, SeaTac
Jo'el Roth, DVR Region 3 ATAP
Katie Mirkovich, DVR Supported Employment Program Manager
Lan Totten, Cascade Connections/CEA DVR Subcommittee
Lori Magnuson, DVR Counselor, Central Seattle
Mari Heusman, DVR Policy and Strategies Manager
Mary Halterman, DVR Program Specialist
Melinda Bocci, DVR Training Manager
Nicholas Michiels, DVR Supervisor, Central Seattle
Rebecca Jansson, CRP from Mainstay at Seattle Central Office
Rebecca Rodriguez, WASILC Executive Assistant
Renee Silva
Tennille Nicolette, DVR Training Manager

Call to Order— Meeting called to order at 9:02am by Michele Stelovich, Chair

Executive Committee: Michele Stelovich

Motion: Approval of the Member Code of Conduct

First: Erica Wollen **Second:** Lesa Dunphy

No edits, no abstentions. **APPROVED and ADOPTED**

- Member appreciation
 - Thanked Ivanova Smith for her six-year service on the Council. Staff will send her a Certificate of Appreciation.
- Staff will send the approved Code of Conduct to council members to sign and return.
- Recruitment is ongoing
 - Business/Labor Rep
 - Current/Formal Recipient of Services Rep
 - Disability Advocate Rep
- Annual Report draft is completed and will be sent to visual communications for final revisions soon.
 - DVR's new communication manager has provided further assistance to make document fully accessible.

Policy & Planning Subcommittee: Lesa Dunphy

- Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Priorities
 - Transition Policy Development and Review
 - Pre-ETS
 - School to Work
 - Post-Secondary education
 - Measurable skill gains
 - Educational functioning level
 - Secondary diploma or recognized equivalent
 - Secondary & postsecondary transcript or report card

- Satisfactory or better progress report
 - Passage of an exam
- Presumptive Eligibility Determination
 - Rapid Engagement
 - Zero exclusion
 - Time unlimited supports
 - 50% of applicants are on some kind of Social Security benefit
- Order of Selection
- State Plan Development
 - Next four-year state plan development to start in spring-summer 2023. The plan is due to RSA in June 2024.
- Next Steps
 - Meet with leadership to hear their plans regarding Pre-ETS and the Synergy recommendations
 - Meet new Pre-ETS and School to Work program managers
 - Discuss a recommendation of increasing use of presumptive eligibility
 - Engage in more cross-subcommittee integration

Partnership Subcommittee

Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board: Erica Wollen

- First in-person meeting to be held next week in conjunction with the Washington Workforce Association.
 - Main focus will be the Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP) planning process.
 - Every four years the board is charged with overhauling their State Plan. They are planning now to allow us stakeholder involvement.

Developmental Disabilities Council: Shelby Satko

- Shelby received updates to share from new Director, Brandi Monts, who started in September
 - Currently interviewing for a EDAI position
 - Two decision packages for upcoming
 - Make the EDAI analyst position permanent.
 - Extend proviso funding from the last legislative session to get a full 12 months for EDAI work.
 - Dan Thompson Fund
 - Fund set aside by the legislature.
 - One-time funds for COVID were available, added to the existing fund.
 - Released 24 proposals for DDA consideration.
 - North Star, a collective of disability advocates working together to propose legislation.

Special Education Advisory Council: Jen Chong-Jewell

- Funding. Looking at impact in relationship to BIPOC students
- Working on a Letter of Recommendation to approve OSPI's request to remove the funding cap

- Recommendation 1: Creation of a new two-way system of accountability that SEAC requests concrete and measurable actions aligned with recommendations and OSPI provides regular updates on these requests.
- Recommendation 2: Continue collection and analysis of disaggregated data and recommendations regarding graduation pathways. Clarify where the accountability lies for ensuring access to graduation pathway options with significant disabilities, such as behaviors.
- Recommendation 3: Continue the efforts of OSPI to leverage best practices in providing technical assistance and partnership to districts, families, and education groups.
- Recommendation 4: Convening a joint meeting between the SEAC and DCYF Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC).
- Recommendation 5: Collection and analysis of data on the collective impact of special education funding in relation to braided funding and impacts on BIPOC students with disabilities.

Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR): Jen Chong-Jewell

- Collective from different divisions within DSHS met in September
- [PEAR's new website](#)
- [Strategic Plan Guide](#)
- [PEAR's plan and play book](#)
- How does an agency develop a more comprehensive understanding of customers accessing multiple services, and with multiple intersections of need?
- How are we serving individuals and prevent imposing further barriers to them receiving services?

Tribal VR: Laurae MacClain

- Working on MOU with other Tribes.
- Continuing to hold monthly meetings on zoom.

Behavioral Health Advisory Council: Jolie Ramsey

- Council resumed regular meetings in June 2022, after a two-year hiatus due to high staff turnover.
- New Council coordinator is Nathan Lusk
- Council makeup includes disability advocates in the behavioral health and medical fields, Dept. of Health, Behavioral Health Authority, OSPI, community providers, etc.
- Current focus, initiatives
 - Opioid crisis response
 - 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
 - Since the hotline went live in July 2022 there has been a 30-50% increase in call volume. Call centers increased workforce.
 - Washington State launched a pilot program that supports LGBTQ+ youth and young adult callers.
 - In effort to better support Native communities, the Native & Strong Lifeline will launch in November 2022.
 - Lifeline specifically for American Indian, Alaskan Native community members who call 988.
 - Calls are answered by Native Tribal members who are specially trained to help fellow Native Americans in crisis.

Office of Superintendent for Public Instruction: Alexandra Toney

- Request to fully fund Special Education
- School districts in WA spend over \$400M more per year than they receive in special education funding. Gap covered by local funding sources.
- OSPI is requesting that our State Legislature:
 - Remove the 13.5% cap on K-12 state special Ed funds
 - Increase the special education multipliers
- Why Increase Special Ed funding?
 - School districts have a legal obligation to serve all students with disabilities in Washington, regardless of cost of services.
 - School districts, families
 - Inclusionary practices
 - These practices help prevent over-identification
 - These funds provide direct professional development
- What does this mean for students, families, and schools?
 - Fully funding special Ed would close the gap in Special Education funding and remove district reliance on local funding, which in turn frees up local funding to provide extra mental health supports and preventive services.
- What about accountability? How do we know the funds serve students?
 - Measures are in place to address overrepresentation in Special Education, and identification and placement as well as discipline and segregation.
 - Mechanisms in place to follow up on Special Education funding to monitor programming and student outcomes and well as dispute trends.
- How can partners help?
 - Talk to your local schools and their funding
 - Sharing your lived experiences
 - Talk to your local representatives about fully funding special education and inclusionary practices.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52am