

**PIECES
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes: October 3, 2002

Attended: Linda Abercrombie, Jerry Brewer, Suzi Brodof, Sally Byard, Nancy Cheshire, Judy Curry, Diane Smith Grych, Lynn Jones, Judy Kachelereis, Teresa Lawlor, Jeff Michael, Chrissy Miller, Cindy O'Brien, Donna Patton, Sandy Poore, April Puzzuoli, LaDonna Rosencrance, Alicia Tyler, Bobbie Warash, Mel Woodcock

I. Introductions and Review

Introductions were made and minutes from the September 6 meeting were reviewed with the following corrections: WVU has an add-on certificate in disabilities from the Division of Family & Consumer Sciences (it is not an endorsement); Concord College does not have the Associate degree in occupational development with an early childhood specialization; Fairmont College has a Bachelor's degree in Family & Consumer Sciences with an early childhood specialization and an early childhood Associate degree.

Judy Curry talked to the group about a proposal being considered by the funders of STARS and Training Connections (DHHR, DOE and Head Start State Collaboration) that would establish a Training Connections Advisory Group to be facilitated by Sandy Poore, the new Training Connections Director. The advisory committee would provide advice on professional development initiatives included in the contract, including training/trainer approvals and other day to day functions of the STARS career pathway and training approval system. Since many of the Professional Development Committee members were part of the work group that developed all of the details of the STARS system, Judy asked if there were volunteers who would be willing to serve on the advisory group. She indicated that this change would be an expansion of responsibilities to include other initiatives sponsored by Training Connections, such as the Early Childhood Provider Quarterly, the training calendar, the Kid Stuff Newsletter, Infant and Toddler Training, etc. There was a lot of discussion about how this new Training Connections Advisory Group would connect with the Professional Development Committee and PIECES. The committee felt that this new advisory group should be a subcommittee of the Professional Development Committee. Judy indicated that she would discuss their recommendation with the other funders. She asked that plans to restart the Career Lattice work group as part of the PIECES Professional Development Committee be put on hold.

Judy Curry indicated to the Committee that the PIECES Advisory Council was not in favor of a blanket transfer of charges dealing with Articulation and Certification to the Higher Education Consortium. She indicated that the work plan must address all of the charges, but specific items could be assigned to subcommittees to work on. Lynn Jones indicated that this was the intent all along. The committee favored having the Higher

Education Consortium continue as an arm of the Professional Development Committee, with some members on both. Both groups would be guided by the same Professional Development Committee work plan with Higher Education reporting to Professional Development and they would hold periodic joint meetings.

II. SB 247: Pre-K Program

The October 1 revision of the Procedural Rule for SB 247 Pre-kindergarten System was reviewed. The following comments were made and Lynn Jones will pass these on to Cathy Jones:

- Personnel Standards, 8.3 related to aides, assistants and paraprofessionals: the committee feels that a time frame should be added to the requirement that aides and assistants have an individualized staff development plan for specifying his/her planned progression on the career pathway to Level V.
- Regulation of Facilities, 9.1: the rule reads that (2nd sentence) “*public schools or other programs who are exempt under WV Division of Health Legislative Rules Child Care Centers or its replacement must meet the requirements set forth in that rule.*” Concerns were expressed that these programs do not have to be licensed, just meet the requirements, particularly as it related to preschool programs that have children less than 4 hours per day.

The rule will be going to the State Board of Education in mid-October and then will come out on a 30 day public comment period.

III. STARS Registry

Chrissy Miller presented some questions related to individual Career Pathway applications and requested assistance with operationalizing the CEU system. Lynn Jones will go to Huntington and meet with Chrissy and Sandy Poor in late October to address these and other issues.

IV. National Governor’s Association Meeting

Judy Curry provided an overview of the October 23rd and 24th National Governor’s Association (NGA) meeting related to a career ladder for TANF recipients in child care and health care. Several members of the Professional Development Committee were at the meeting. The state received much accolades from the NGA about our early care and education Career Pathway. The discussion of the 2 days focused on higher education and career opportunities for TANF recipients, extending our Career Pathway to be more responsive to this population, and developing a career pathway for health care.

The following recommendations were made for early care and education at this meeting:

- Explore use of IPSI software at colleges/universities
- Complete the comparison matrix already begun by the Higher Education Consortium
- Have a statewide “articulation” summit
- Survey provider community, re: articulation
- Develop a brochure/map of ece higher education opportunities and career option
- Add Workforce Development representatives to the PD Committee

V. Professional Development Committee Work Plan

Judy provided samples of a work plan and the committee began to develop a plan. Due to time constraints, the committee decided that a small group should draft a work plan based on the PIECES charges, STARS Guiding Principles, NGA recommendations and SB 247 Pre-K Personnel and Staff Development rules. This small group will include Judy Curry, Lynn Jones, Sally Byard and Cindy O’Brien who will meet prior to the next meeting.

VI. Next Steps

1. Lynn Jones will pass on to Cathy Jones the comments/concerns expressed about the latest draft of the Procedural Rule for the BOE Pre-K system related to aides and assistants and regulation of facilities.
2. Lynn Jones will meet with Chrissy Miller and Sandy Poore about getting the STARS Registry as up-to-date as possible and transferring all the responsibilities to Training Connections.
3. As requested by the Committee, Judy Curry, Lynn Jones, Sally Byard and Cindy O’Brien who will develop a draft PD Committee work plan prior to the next meeting.
4. Lynn Jones will contact Dave Leiving about having a Work Force Development representative on the Committee.
5. Lynn Jones will bring copies of the Professional Development STARS video to the next meeting.
6. Cathy D’Antoni will provide an overview of the IPSI software at the next meeting to be held November 7, 2002.