Louisiana Workforce Investment Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 9:30 a.m.  
Louisiana State Police Training Academy  
7901 Independence Blvd  
Baton Rouge, La 70806

Members of the Council Present:
Chairman, Charles Moniotte
Art Favre
Brian Breaux, Designee for Charles Vandersteen
Ray Barker, Designee for Craig Roussell
Curt Eysink, Exec. Director of LWC
Eddie Risponne
Michael Dupre, Designee for Sen. Elbert Guillory
Bryan Gautreaux, Designee for Hilda Curry
Jim Urdiales
Whalen Gibbs, Designee for Sec. James Leblanc
Jacqueline Beauchamp
Jason Dedon
Jennifer Boggs
Jim Urdiales
Lisa Vosper, Designee for Comm. Jim Purcell
Jerry Ryan, Designee for Dr. Joe May
John White, Supt. of DOE

Jorge Tarajano
Kathy Bobbs
Katrina Thomas
Keith Brand
Gary Warren, Designee for Louis Reine
Margaret McGarity
Michael Miternight
Michael Palamone
Ronald Williams
Myron Berzas, Designee for Sec. Ruth Johnson
Susana Schowen, Designee for Sec. Stephen Moret
Thomas Mitchiner O’Neal

Members of the Council Absent:
Alden Andre
Rep. Cameron Henry
Darryl Ward, Designee for John Young
Julie Cherry
Keith Myers
Rep. Patricia Haynes Smith

Russell Armstrong
Terry Baugh

Guests in Attendance
Glenn Dugas, Lafayette, WIB
Gloria Abels, LWIA 20
Paul Theriot, LDOE

Terri Mitchell, LWIA 83
Doretha Bennett, LWIA 81
Elaine Morace, LWIA 61

I. Comments from the Chair
Chairman Charles Moniotte addressed the Council and thanked members for attending this meeting during session. He commented on the full agenda since departments would be presenting their legislative agendas.

II. Approval of Minutes
A draft of the minutes from the February 2012 meeting was given to each member for their review. Mr. Palamone made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Moniotte seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed.
III. Presentation of the 2012 Legislative Agenda by WIC Agency Partners

A. Department of Education – Superintendent John White

Supt. John White discussed the governor’s agenda and the DOE legislative agenda and discussed some of the successes over the last 10 years such as the rise in graduation and proficiency rates and the closing of achievement gaps between racial and socioeconomic groups. Listed below are three basic proposed changes that tie to workforce readiness.

1. **Early Childhood Education**
   Numerous funding streams have been identified that dictate how early childhood programs are regulated. Proposed legislation suggests that we regulate all under one academic umbrella for 4 year-olds where the programs that work are funded and those that don’t are not.

2. **Teachers**
   Proposed legislation attempts to shift toward a more professional culture than a one size fits all culture. The current evaluation system rates teachers on a scale of 1-5.
   a. **Compensation** should be based on this rating and be based on a combination of years of experience, academic preparation and effectiveness.
   b. **Layoffs** should be based on effectiveness rather than seniority,
   c. **Tenure** is a lifetime job protection but hasn’t shown to have any positive effect on student achievement. Proposed legislation hopes to shift to the higher education model for K-12 where tenure is granted as an honor for teachers who have achieved highly effective ratings for a number of years. Current teachers would retain their tenure but future teachers would be granted tenure based on the new model.

3. **Family Choice for All**
   Proposed legislation seeks to give all families the choice to leave a C, D or F school to attend an approved private school, a school in another district approved by the state, or a high performing charter school. In the formula that funds K-12, there will also be the ability to take state certified online courses, state certified higher education courses and state certified industry -based courses.

B. Louisiana Community and Technical College System – Dr. Monty Sullivan

1. Mergers to improve college capacity to meet workforce demands (Senate Bills 284, 247, SCR 17)
   a. Acadiana
   b. Capital Area
   c. Central Louisiana

2. Fix the **Open Access Penalty** Policy Issue (House Bill 727)
   a. Grad Act requires community colleges to offer developmental education
   b. Community Colleges then assume the responsibility for “high risk” students
   c. Four-year admission standard puts students who are predicted to not complete college to community colleges
   d. End-of-course funding penalizes “open access” colleges
   e. Significant progress in policy directions
      ✓ GRAD Act
      ✓ Articulation and Transfer
      ✓ Developmental Education
      ✓ Dual Enrollment
   f. Performance Funding Model
   g. Funding should reflect the policy directions and institutional missions

C. Louisiana Board of Regents- Dr. Lisa Vosper

*The Board of Regents Legislative Package addresses 5 areas:*

1. **Appropriations**
   Senate Bill 301 by LaFleur allows postsecondary institutions to carry forward certain funds at the end of a fiscal year under certain conditions and House Bill 396 and SB385 by Carmody and LaFleur propose a constitutional amendment to provide relative to the authority and powers of the Board of Regents and the public postsecondary education management boards.
2. **Higher Education**
   House Bill 395 by Carmody is relative to the expenditure of allocation of funds appropriated to postsecondary education management boards. House Bill 882 by Burns authorizes the Board of Regents to increase the licensure fee for postsecondary, academic degree-granting institutions operating in LA. Senate Bill 103 by Nevers limits the number of hours required to earn a baccalaureate degree. Senate Bill 290 by Murray provides relative to the Louisiana University Marine Consortium. Senate Bill 453 by La Fleur provides relative to Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

3. **TOPS/Dual Enrollment K-12**
   House Bill 841 by Pat Smith is relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students and provides for award dollar amounts.

4. **Tuition**
   House Bill 275 by Schroder is relative to the authority of public postsecondary education management boards to increase tuition and mandatory fee amounts.

5. **Mergers**
   House Bill 964 and SB527 by Fannin and Walsworth provides for the merger of Louisiana Tech and LSU-Shreveport. Senate Bill 284 by Cortez and Bishop merges Louisiana Technical College campuses with South Louisiana Community College. These bills are recommended by the Board of Regents although they are not on the Board of Regents legislative agenda.

D. **Department of Public Safety and Corrections-Mr. Whalen Gibbs**
   Mr. Gibbs discussed facts regarding the Department of Corrections relating to statistics on the number of offenders serving a sentence, percentage that will be released back into the community, number of offenders who are released annually, percentage who will return to incarceration, and number who are under probation and parole supervision. Mr. Gibbs also pointed out that Louisiana leads the world in the per capita rate of incarceration which is almost twice the national average.

   He discussed proposed legislation that expands the Workforce Development Sentencing Program to include additional Judicial Districts, namely the 19th JDC, East Baton Rouge Parish, and the 22nd JDC, St. Tammany and Washington parishes. Reentry court serves individuals who have already been convicted and sentenced to a term of hard labor with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. The offender receives workforce development training and other reentry programming.

   Other proposed legislation prohibits disqualification or ineligibility to practice a licensed trade or profession solely because of a prior criminal record, unless a conviction directly relates to the position sought. The proposed legislation deletes the references to a felony conviction.

E. **Louisiana Workforce Commission**
   House Bill 539 is the Workforce Investment Council cleanup bill by Pat Smith. It aligns state and federal law regarding the appointment of the chairman and the election of the vice-chairman. It reduces the number of mandatory meetings from six meetings to four meetings in the case that a quorum is not reached for one or two of the meetings during the year. It also clarifies the terms “state” plan and “strategic” plan.

*Handouts were provided for the following three agencies’ legislative agendas due to time constraints. Mr. Moniotte requested that any questions concerning these be emailed.*

F. **Office of the Governor**
G. **Department of Economic Development**
H. **Department of Children and Family Services**

IV. **Consideration and Approval of Extension of the State Plan for Adult Education**
   **Dr. Jerry Ryan, LCTCS**
   The Workforce Investment Act, The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education require an annual update (extension) to the Adult Education Plan in order to receive funding. The proposed changes relate to the procedure and process of funding eligible providers which will now be based on two separate but overlapping adult education grants, one is a multi-year grant.
with Federal funds and the other is a single year grant with state funds. Both are awarded on a competitive basis. Mr. Palamone moved to approve. Mr. Tarajano seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed.

V. Consideration and Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between WIC and WIB SDA-83 for the Northeast Louisiana Professional Healthcare Opportunities-Careers and Support Project (NELA PHOCAS Project)-Terri Mitchell
This project provides eligible individuals with education and training that will prepare them to enter and advance in the healthcare sector. Those who are eligible are TANF recipients, other low income individuals (200% of poverty level) and those who are residents of the Louisiana Labor Market Area-8. Mr. Palamone made a motion to approve. It was seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed.

VI. Discussion of Workforce Investment Council and Workforce Investment Boards Outreach Program- Mr. Charles Moniotte
Mr. Moniotte discussed the idea of members of WIC who are non-state employees reaching out to the WIBs to meet with the Director, attend one of the board meetings, and to visit the local One-Stop. The purpose is to better understand the issues, increase collaboration between the WIC and WIBS and then to report back in a 5 minute presentation to the Council.

Mr. Moniotte pointed out that contact information for the WIBs and assignments for members were provided as a handout in the packet as well as a handout of the Business and Career Solutions Centers and Board Meeting dates. Mr. Palamone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed.

VII. Report on Accountability and Performance Measures
Ms. Claudeidra Minor stated that the majority of this information was discussed at the last meeting. The new information is provided on pages 3-11 and pointed out that it is the graduation rate information for 4 year institutions, 2 year institutions and technical institutions. Mr. Moniotte discussed the benchmarks and their relation to the Grad Act and stated that Dr. Purcell was going to review them in order to determine if the benchmarks needed to be revised to align with the Grad Act.

VIII. Other Business
None

IX. Public Comments
None

Adjournment