

**Mississippi's School-to-Careers Initiative
STC State Partner Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2000 – 3:00 – 5:00
MDE Room 143**

Members Present:

Debbie Duncan – Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development
Johnny Franklin – Public Education Forum
Obra Hackett – Mississippi Parent Teacher Association
William McHenry – Institutions of Higher Learning
Kelly Riley – Office of the Governor
Wayne Stonecypher – State Board for Community and Junior Colleges
Suzanne Ulmer – Mississippi's School-to-Careers Initiative

Members Absent:

Joe Haynes – MDE/Leadership & Operations
George Walker – State Workforce Development Council
Blake Wilson – Mississippi Economic Council

Others Present:

Jeannine Drake – Mississippi Department of Education
Karen Gates – Mississippi Department of Education
Dennis Watts – Institutions of Higher Learning
Fred Westcott – U.S. Department of Labor

- 1. Approval of April 26, 2000 Minutes (Eagle Ridge retreat/workshop) *(see attachment)***
 - Motion made to adopt the June 6th minutes was made by Ms. Ulmer and seconded by Dr. Hackett.
- 2. Approval of June 6, 2000 Minutes *(see attachment)***
 - Motion made to adopt the April 26th minutes was made by Ms. Ulmer and seconded by Dr. Hackett.
- 3. Approval of June 29, 2000 Minutes**
 - Moved to September meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- 4. Results of Local Partnerships' Continuation Applications**
 - Ms. Ulmer gave a report on the status of three continuation applications. She discussed the problems identified with the application for each partnership and noted the recommendations. She requested that approval is needed from the State Partners to allow staff to continue to work with the local partnerships to correct deficient sections.
 - Ms. Ulmer pointed out that revisions concerning missing sections have been submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

- 5. Review of Goal Statements for Mississippi's School-to-Careers Initiative**
 - Ms. Riley submitted the goal statements for discussion.
 - Dr. Hackett had questions and concerns regarding goal statements.
 - Ms. Ulmer noted that the language being reviewed was taken from sources developed two years prior to the development of the RFP.
 - After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Riley stated that the partners take the document and study it for further comments and discussion. Ms. Ulmer agreed to make the RFP available electronically.

6. Discussion of Public Education Forum's idea for a 2001 Conference

- Mr. Franklin discussed his ideas for a conference by bringing key business people, key government people, key education people, and legislative leaders together to change and open up workforce development in the state.
- Ms. Riley suggested that she and Mr. Franklin meet and plan the next steps and report to the partners at the next meeting.
- Ms. Ulmer asked for clarification that this may be a one-day conference/meeting and should not take the place of one of the statewide School-to-Careers Conferences that will be a multiple day event focusing on programs and practice for local partnerships.

7. State Director's Report *(see attachment)*

- Ms. Ulmer provided handouts from the July 31st Continuation Application Debriefing meeting of the Local Partnerships.
- Ms. Ulmer reported on the recommendations by the local partnerships for revisions to the continuation application. It was the consensus of the state partners to allow staff to make the necessary changes as noted.
- Dr. Hackett and Dr. McHenry asked if the state partners could have the scores for each of the continuation applications. Ms. Ulmer said she would check with the grant office at MDE of how to proceed with this request and provide it at the next meeting.
- Ms. Ulmer explained the process of the State Partners Review and passed around a sign up sheet for signatures for site preferences. She noted that all travel expenses will be reimbursed by STC.
- Ms. Riley will set aside 30 minutes at the next meeting on September 5 for Ms. Ulmer to explain the process of the site visits and reviews.
- Ms. Ulmer discussed the National School-to-Work Conference in Washington, D.C. in October. All State Partners and Staff have been registered with arrangements made for their airfare and hotel. Anyone not attending needs to let the STC office know by Friday, August 25th.
- Ms. Ulmer passed out the project summaries from the local partnerships to the group.

8. Other Business

- Ms. Riley stated that although she believes IHL's timeline and budget are contractual issues between IHL and MDE, input from state partners will be necessary to provide guidance. A separate meeting was scheduled for IHL and MDE to meet to discuss timeline and budget issues on Wednesday, August 9, at 1:30 p.m. at MDE. Meeting room to be determined.
- Ms. Riley stated that any of the partners could attend the meeting.
- Mr. Watts provided State partners with a copy of the local partnership evaluation.
- In closing, Dr. Hackett stated that the meeting was very good and productive.

9. September meeting date (September 5)

10. Agenda Items for September Meeting

- PEF Proposal for one-day conference/meeting for the spring of 2001.
- Mr. Watts will provide the STC goals (as listed in the RFP) with evaluation tools/items detailed.
- Summer Continuation Application scores for local partnerships.
- Thirty minutes allocated for training on local monitoring/site visits.