



## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

317 W. Main Street  
Boise, ID 83735-0790

### **TRANSMITTAL # 2**

### **MEMORANDUM**

**May 4, 2006**

**TO:** Workforce Development Council  
**FROM:** Karen A. McGee, Chair  
**SUBJECT:** Report on Council Feedback to Barlow

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Information Only.

### **BACKGROUND:**

At the conclusion of Ed Barlow's presentation on Strategic Leadership and Governance, the Council and audience members completed a survey which tested views of the current system and created a vision of a preferred future. Details of the survey are reflected in the attachment.

The current view of the system is that the system is not well known, lacks an opportunity for local input and is responsive or reactionary rather than proactive. A smaller but significant number also viewed the system as slow and in disarray. The preferred view is a system that is quick with shortened training times, future oriented and proactive, well known, and aligned to needs using a collaborative approach.

Those in attendance at the January meeting cited collaboration, educational partnerships and communications of needs as critical to moving the system to the next level. This same group suggested that the Council could be moved to the next level by redefining membership, priorities and the agenda. In looking for future Council members, the Council was advised to look for those who could bring resources to the table, were business representatives and possessed vision and a view of the future.

Several options were suggested for supporting the local level including developing a speakers bureau, sharing information, assisting with or leveraging funding, and listening to local needs.

Finally, the survey identified interest in learning more about contextual learning, differential pay for science and math teachers, community colleges and a number of individual requests for additional information.

Since our last meeting, we have begun work on these recommendations. The Council has been expanded and a new structure has been identified that will allow us to move more quickly in our expanded role. We have plans to share for gathering more local information and will consider plans for better alignment of programs and collaboration among programs.

I am excited by what we will be able to accomplish with new members joining the current council. We can use this information to guide us as we strengthen the workforce system.

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Attachment

Perception of Workforce Development System			
Current		Preferred	
System Unknown	14	Quick/shorten gaps/reduce training time	9
Minimal local input/control	13	Future oriented/proactive	8
Reactionary	11	Aligned/Collaborative	6
Disarray	7	Known/marketing	5
Moves too slowly	7	Fine tuned machine	2
Adequate	1	More responsive	2
negative, unresponsive	1	Positive	1
Uninformed need	1	Functional Strategy	1
		Leverage through Education	1

Strategies to take the workforce system to the next level	
Collaboration	21
Educational Partnerships	18
Communication (needs)	15
Less staff/more industry reports	1
Focus on 3 buckets*	1
Include ABE	1
Updated LMI	1
Local input strategy	1

\*sustainable, emerging, priority

Strategies to take the Council to the next level	
Redefine Membership	16
Redefine Priorities	14
Redefine Agenda on task	8
Local Input	2
Diversify	1
Health Centers involved	1
Increased employer rep	1
Ongoing LMI	1

Knowledge & representation for selecting/training future council	
Fund Raising/Bring \$	20
Demand driven more industry	18
Future oriented	11
Visionary	8
Interests	4
Competitive skill sets	2
self-funded boards	1
LMI driven	1
Interest in needs	1
OS in hospital	1
Reflect local economy	1
knowledge	1
Proactive	1

Ways state council can be supportive of local efforts	
Speakers Bureau	18
Information sharing	11
Funding/leverage funding	12
Listen to local needs	12
Expand local representation	1
Listen	1
Materials	2
Communication	2
Listen so same orgs aren't driving	1

Additional information desired for policy governance& leadership	
Contextual learning	14
Differentiated pay math/science	12
Community college	10
Prisons	8
Jr. College in prisons	2
Board restructuring	1
Future Vision	1
Fund raising	1