

MINUTES OF THE  
**Workforce Development Council and K-12 Education Coordination Council Joint Meeting**  
Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**RAMADA INN, Bismarck, ND**

---

**WDC Members present:** Dave Farnsworth, Pat Bertagnolli, Becca Cruger, Kellie Carlson, Cindy Griffin, Chancellor Mark Hagerott, Katie Ralston Howe, Lyn James, Dusty Jensen, Tim Johnson, Jan Kamphuis, Howard Klug, Landis Larson, Perry Lubbers, Matt Marshall, Guy Moos, Stan Schauer, Rep. Cindy Schreiber - Beck, Wayde Sick, Taya Spelhaug, Arnie Strebe, Damian Schlinger, James Upgren, Kasper Ziegler

**Staff present:** Phil Davis, Tammy Barstad, Kerri Kraft, Ryan Volk, Sherri Frieze

**K12 Members present:** Marc Bluestone, Sr., Jeff Fastnacht, Sonia Meehl, Melissa (Liz) Vollmer, Maria Neset, Sarah Ricks, Sara Medalen, Rep. Pat Heinert, Brandt Dick, and Jennifer Weber, Dr. Rupak Gandhi, Nick Archuleta, April Foth

**Others Present:** Superintendent Baesler, Ellie Shockly, Dawn Ulmer, Stacy Duffield, Aimee Copas, Mike Heilman, Wayde Sick, Kayla Effertz Kleven, Terry Effertz, Laura Doll

---

**WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL for Joint Meeting**

Dave Farnsworth, WDC Chair, and Liz Vollmer, K-12 Acting Chair for Luke Schaefer, called the WDC and the K-12 Education Coordination Council meeting to order. Chairs to each council welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

**WDC OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Katie Ralston Howe

WDC Charter, Membership, Themes, and Recommendations of the council were discussed by Katie Ralston Howe.

**CHARTER**

- Advise the Governor and the public concerning the nature and extent of workforce development needs in North Dakota.
- Identify how to meet these needs effectively while maximizing the efficient use of available resources and avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort.

**MEMBERSHIP**

- 33 members on the Workforce Development Council
- 51% of membership is private sector
- 20% of membership is labor organizations and workforce representatives
- Other membership includes education, local and state elected officials, community-based organizations, and state workforce agencies.

**WDC THEMES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

Katie Ralston Howe

Promoting the recommendations will allow statewide impact, encourage private sector partnership to coordinate and maximize federal resources, that will encourage more scalable solutions to balance current and future needs.

**CAREER EXPLORATION**

1. Create and train work-based learning coordinators and career advisors
2. Hire apprenticeship coordinator

## RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

1. Funding for local workforce solutions
2. Funding for talent and retention initiatives
3. Create global talent task force
  - Endorsement - NDSU Re - Energize ND

## ADDRESSING TECHNICAL SKILLS GAP

1. Invest in Automation Enhancement Workforce Training Grant
2. Technical Skills Training Grant (TSTG) endorsement
  - Endorsement - Workforce Education Innovation

## REMOVING BARRIERS

1. Develop job placement pilot program for formerly incarcerated individuals
2. Leverage federal Digital Equity Act (DEA) funds to advance digital skill training opportunities for adult learners, jobseekers, and workers.
  - Endorsement - Supporting Working Families Childcare Plan

## OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE REFORM

1. Develop a central directory of all licensing boards
  - Endorsement - Policies that expedite pathway to licensure for current and new North Dakotans

## K12 EDUCATION COORDINATION COUNCIL OVERVIEW

Kayla Effertz Kleven

Objectives and Mission of the council were discussed.

### OBJECTIVES

- Coordinate the education efforts, across state agencies, statewide, local, and regional activities, to find innovation solutions, along with recommendations and duplications for those that touch on education.

### MISSION

- Mission may be the same, as in training, hearings and in making these connections. The awareness of what each other is doing will help to move us both forward.

## K-12 EDUCATION COORDINATION COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS

Liz Vollmer on behalf of Luke Schaefer, Chair

### EDUCATOR ATTRACTIONS & RETENTION

1. Increased funding request
2. Support additional appropriation for mentoring of administrators
3. Conduct a research study of leading indicators of education attraction and retention:
  - a. Current education college students in ND
  - b. Current teacher's scope of work and current attitudes towards the profession of teaching
  - c. Alternative pathways for teacher licensure
4. Study the training and other requirements that are required by state agencies of educators
  - a. Committee has been formed to determine the scope of work & priorities of the studies

### COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

5. Membership changes
  - a. Changes to the spending authority

### **GOVERNOR AND SLDS SUPPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Expand ND Insights to include a Strategic Vision Dashboard – included in NDIIT budget
  - a. Support state funding for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)
  - b. Request SLDS governance to prioritize the expansion of ND Insights within the total appropriation.
  - c. Support the continue full funding of SLDS.

### **KEYPOINT ITEMS FROM DISCUSSIONS**

- Success with dual credit courses for high school students
- Building of less college real estate
- Net immigration and welcoming workforce to the state
- Alignment with recruitment and retention, Technical Skills Training Grant for teachers, more marketing on this
- Supporting of teachers that want to advance with licensing under one agency
- Defining of high school requirements, allowing Apprenticeship for Graduation
- Learn Every Bill – with local board approval, too many hoops to go through currently
- Teach core competencies, at Career Academy – build the system, innovation is coming. Must be done at every school level
- Find a different way to teach the fundamentals for jobs of the future, automation
- Adjust standards to fit the learning model within the schools, testing model

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, members from both councils adjourned the meeting unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.