



State Center Adult Education Consortium

Connect • Collaborate • Create

Adult Education Consortia Meeting Wednesday May 13, 2015 – 2:00 p.m. CCCC – Herndon Campus, Building B, Room 308

Attendees:

- Cheryle Anderson, Fresno Adult SPED
- Jeremy Boriack, Fresno County Public Library
- Donna Cooper, Fresno City College
- Stephanie Curry, Reedley College
- Steven Ewert, Fresno Adult School
- Patrick Flattley, Central Learning Adult School
- Baljit Gill, Caruthers USD
- Rich Ishimaru, Kings Canyon Adult School
- Alejandra Juarez, SER Jobs for Progress, Inc.
- Laura Lopez, Fresno County Dept. of Social Services
- Anna Martinez, Reedley College
- Lori Negrete, Kings Canyon USD
- Nikki Newsome, Reading and Beyond
- Nancy Penny, Sanger Adult School
- Suzanne Rodriguez, Dinuba Adult School
- Ed Schmalzel, Clovis Adult School
- Tracie Scott-Contreras, Madera County Workforce Investment Board
- Dan Sousa, State Center Community College District
- Barbara Thiesen, Dinuba USD
- Julie Thurber, Reedley College
- Pang Vangyi, State Center Adult Ed Consortium
- Sherri Watkins, State Center Adult Ed Consortium
- Howard Yamagiwa, Firebaugh Adult Education
- Michael Youngblood, CALTERRA
- Allyson Adams, State Center Consortium

Welcome, Introductions and Activity

Sherri Watkins welcomed the group. All attendees then introduced themselves and participated in an activity designed to meet others in the group.

Approval of 2/20/2015 Meeting Minutes

Jeremy Boriack motioned to approve minutes. Steven Ewert seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Progress Report

- Final Report Submission

The final report was submitted on March 1, 2015. It can be found on the new website at www.adultedconnect.org. Sherri mentioned that the report was well received by the State. She and Lori Morton were asked to participate in a Joint Legislative Hearing in Sacramento about their consortia experience. SCAEC was one of four consortia in the state asked to present at the hearing. Sherri has also been speaking with the Sequoia Consortium in Visalia. They were impressed with the report and are using it as a model for success.

- Governor's Budget Proposal

The May revision has not yet been released. It is looking very positive that the state will still be moving forward with the \$500 million block grant for adult education.

Question: Out of the \$500 million allocated for adult education, \$300 million will be going to K-12 schools. What will the additional \$150 million be used for? Sherri answered that in the report, there are goals to achieve, including continuing collaborative efforts and hiring more staff. The funds are generally to be used for implementation of the transition plan.

- Website Update

Sherri gave an overview of the new website, www.adultedconnect.org. The website has officially launched and is ready for use. A comment was made that perhaps the GED heading should be changed to HSE, in order to include other exams that are equivalent to a High School Diploma, such as the HiSET. Sherri asked all in attendance to please look at the website and email her with any comments or corrections.

- Collaborative Action Team Workshop

A CAT workshop was held on April 17. The workshop brought adult school representatives together with the purpose of meeting to get adult schools on the same page before collaborating with community colleges. This first workshop focused on Basic Skills and ESL. Additional CAT workshops will be held for other program areas.

- COABE Conference

Donna Cooper reported on the conference in Denver. She attended a number of useful workshops, one in particular highlighting the collaboration between a community college and adult school in San Bernardino. They have created a transition piece that seems to work very well, and are open to sharing it with others. She also attended a workshop on Open Educational Resources for students and professional development, which had good ideas on how to share information across a large region.

- Reading and Beyond

Nikki Newsome gave an overview of what Reading and Beyond offers. One of their main programs, in partnership with Fresno County Social Services, is the Fresno Bridge Academy, which serves low income

parents with employment and education goals. The program runs for 18 months, using an ABC model: **A**ny job; a **B**etter job; a **C**areer. The program helps the entire family, allowing the parent to achieve their goals. In partnership with Fresno County Dept. of Social Services and the CA Dept. of Social Services, the Fresno Bridge Academy was granted funds as one of ten national pilots to test some innovative strategies and vastly expand their program across Fresno County. They expect to serve 1500 to 2000 families.

Next Steps

Classroom and Site Visits

Sherri and Pang will be beginning site visits shortly. Classroom visits will have to wait until next school year. It was noted that many college counselors are off work beginning next week. Matriculation counselors may be the best place to start the conversation.

Other

- Steven Ewert reported on a positive collaboration between a community college and an ROP program. Based on the level of articulation and collaboration, he felt they had been working together for about three years. Sherri asked to have the information forwarded to her so she may contact them for ideas.
- Michael Youngblood reported on the Tribal Correctional Academy. They are a non-profit organization committed to providing instruction geared toward working in the county or any correctional facility. They offer an accelerated course with minimal cost. It is not required to be tribal to attend. Classes are held at 2377 West Shaw in Fresno. They are also working with Golden Valley USD and Madera USD to use their facilities as well.

**The next General Consortium Meeting Date
will be emailed through Constant Contact over the summer**