

**Region 4 Workforce Board-Youth Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2019**

	PY 18					
	7/17/18	9/11/18	11/6/18	1/8/19	3/12/19	5/7/19
Randy Vernon, Chair	X	X	Cancelled	X		
Kevin Summers, Vice Chair		X				
Deb Waymire, Secretary	X	X		X		
Terri Simons	X	X		X		
Chris Cohee	X	X		X		
Steve Snyder	X	X		X		
Miranda Hutcheson	X	X		X		
Kara Webb	X	X		X		

Also in attendance: Mellisa Leaming, Director of Operations and Tina Overley-Hilt, Executive Assistant.

**Call to Order:**

Attendees were welcomed and the meeting called to order by Chair, Randy Vernon at **9:00 AM** at Region 4 Workforce Board office, 976 Mezzanine Drive, Lafayette, Indiana. A quorum of the membership was present to conduct business of the committee.

**Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2018**

Meeting minutes from September 11, 2018 were approved as presented.

Motion to approve: Steve Snyder

Second: Deb Waymire

Approved: unanimously

**New Business:**

***Work Ethic Program***

Mellisa Leaming provided an update on the Skill UP3 Work Ethic initiative. There are a total of 11 new schools and one 2<sup>nd</sup> year school with 90 students enrolled. The Skill Up 3 grant provides \$70,000 to increase the number of schools and help fund the Work Ethic program. Currently, \$55,000 has been granted to the schools but only \$2,200 has been utilized. Funds go through February 2020. Funds have been expended for marketing, field trips and a visit to Greater Clark Schools. We will continue to track the funds. It may be that the schools are still ramping up or may be don't need the funds. The goal for number of schools has been achieved but enrollment is a challenge. We may need to request a modification of fund if expenditures do not increase. We will look at expenditures after the next quarter and discuss with schools there intent for remaining funds.

Miranda Hutcheson updated the committee on the changes with her role as director of Wildcat Creek Career Cooperative and Greater Lafayette Career Academy. Construction is moving along and the website is up.

***JAG Career Development Conference***

Just a reminder. The 2019 JAG Career Development Conference (CDC) will be held on Friday, January 25, 2019 at Ivy Tech Community College in Lafayette from 9:30 AM-12:45 PM. There will be activities for all JAG students while some students will compete to move onto the state competition. Some of the competitions include regional cover design, outstanding senior, commercial/blog and brochure, public speaking, entrepreneurial plan, creative solutions, employability skills, career presentations and critical thinking. Steve Snyder is judging one of the competitions again this year. Youth Committee members are invited to participate in the event or just stop by to support the youth.

***Out of School Youth Program***

Tyler Ness, the youth team lead on the east side of the region resigned his position with WorkOne West Central for a new position with DWD as Legislative Affairs Director.

The Out of School (OSY) “#I Work” rolling program begins every Monday. “I Work” is a 3-week employability skills classroom training where OSY ages 16-24 attend 3 hours a day/5days a week. Participants are paid \$10 per hour to

attend. It is a challenge to recruit for each cohort. We are partnering with Excel Center, LARA and a new partner, Purdue Extension. Region 4 serves 281 WIOA youth and 111 of those are OSY.

### ***Coder DoJo Programs***

Kara Webb provided an update on the Coder DoJo activities since our last meeting. The Coder DoJo held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month at Imagination Station has been in hiatus during the last quarter of 2018 due to staffing changes. Coder DoJo Strike held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at MatchBox worked on a new challenge building and programming a robot. Sessions start back up in February and will launch a new badge program. Participants will receive badges as a recognition of their developing skills or participations in the Coder DoJo. About 25-30 kids are engaged in the program at MatchBox.

Deb Waymire and Kara have been working together on a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant opportunity and the Cultivation fund opportunity of the WHIN grant to expand Coder DoJo, Robotics Camp and Manufacturing Week across 10 counties over a three-year period of time. NSF and Purdue are interested in the impact of informal STEM education on youth and how to develop the talent pipeline going forward. The budget for expanding the Coder DoJo program is estimated to be \$400,000 over 3 years. The grant also includes a \$50 scholarship to assist with the cost to attend the camp. Staff funded under the grant includes a program coordinator, a portion of Kara Webb's time as the director, and stipend for teacher and robotic team volunteers. Funds will be used for the purchase of robotic kits and snacks for the campers. Randy Vernon said Boys and Girls Club can reach out to their supporters and help with scholarship asks. During a future meeting, Kara would like to share the data from the pre and post manufacturing survey of the students at the summer robotics camps conducted by IMAC and Purdue.

### ***Grant Opportunity***

Mellisa Leaming provided information on a grant opportunity through the Caterpillar Foundation. We are working on 2 proposals.

- \$20,000 for JAG program
- \$30,000 for #iWork program, the out of school youth program for recruitment, work experiences, and training.

The deadline to submit is March 2019.

### **Greater Lafayette Career Academy**

Effective July 1, 2019, Greater Lafayette Career Academy will become the local career cooperative. The building will open August 2019. The new career academy will provide new programs and extend current pathways. Partner programs will be still offered in the community.

### **Old Business**

#### **Committee Membership Status**

The committee members will continue to pursue individuals from counties outside of Tippecanoe to serve on the Youth committee.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Deb Waymire

Second: Steve Snyder

Approved: unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Overley-Hilt

### **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Location – Lafayette – TAP office or JAG classroom