



Big Sky Pathways FY14 Initiatives

MUS and OPI

Presented to the Board of Regents

9/19/13

1. Increase awareness at all levels for Big Sky Pathways Programs:
 - a. Implement the National Career Cluster Framework for Pathways in Montana to facilitate understanding of career clusters, pathways, and programs of study.
 - b. Work with Montana Career Information System (MCIS) to enhance efficiency, ease of user experience, and increase emphasis on Big Sky Pathways.
 - c. Redesign Big Sky Pathways website at OCHE.
 - d. Engage key stakeholders of newly formed Career and Technical Education Advisory Board to be Ambassadors, Advocates, and/or Askers to further the mission of Big Sky Pathways for Montana's students.
 - e. Develop a 3-year plan, including media campaign, to inform students, parents, educators, administration, and the public of the benefits of Big Sky Pathways, including earning Dual and High School-for-College Credit, Industry-Recognized Credentials, and participating in Work-based learning experiences while participating in a program of study.

2. Expansion of Big Sky Pathways Initiative: Strengthening Grants:
 - a. Grantees will hire a Career Pathway Coordinator to facilitate the development and expansion of pathways based on the standards provided by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) at the U.S. Department of Education.
 - b. Grantees will revise and update current pathways, and will develop new pathways, adding opportunities for dual enrollment, industry recognized certifications, and work-based learning experiences where appropriate.



- c. Grantees will cultivate and promote relationships between secondary and postsecondary institutions by providing presentations, workshops, and professional development about Career Technical Education (CTE) and pathways, and through working together to align curriculum in the construction of pathways.
 - d. Grantees will increase business and industry involvement in the development of pathways through CTE program advisory committees, meeting with local industry partners to align curriculum, and by including business and industry in the creation of new internships and work-based learning experiences for students.
 - e. Grantees will work to incorporate Dual Credit and High School-for-College Credit where appropriate in pathways, assisting secondary and postsecondary staff with aligning curriculum and in technical elements of the process.
3. Expand Dual Credit Opportunities in CTE for Montana’s high school students:
- a. The MUS has identified funds from its Leadership Funds to support the expansion of Dual Credit opportunities for Montana’s CTE students.
 - b. Legislative Dual Credit OTO funds resulted in the receipt of 8 RFP responses from Montana’s two-year campuses focused on dual credit expansion.
 - c. A main focus of the Strengthening Big Sky Pathways Grants (see above) is to increase the opportunities for Dual and High School-for-College Credit within Programs of Study.
4. Creation of State CTE Advisory Board:
- a. The State Career and Technical Education Board (CTE) consists of business and industry leaders representing the 16 career clusters outlined by the National Career Pathway Framework.
 - b. First meeting of the Board was September 10, 2013.
 - c. Membership (see below).



5. OPI CTE Division Focused on Expansion of Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSO – BPA, DECA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, TSA)
 - a. \$500,000 per year to enhance:
 - i. Membership/Chapter Growth
 - ii. Increased Student Leadership development
 - iii. Increased Professional Development for Chapter Advisors
 - iv. Increased Workforce Skill Development Student Opportunities

6. Improving Secondary and Postsecondary Faculty and Staff Understanding of Pathways:
 - a. Creation of Big Sky Pathways (BSP) Implementation Guide, adapted from the nationally recognized Wisconsin Model.
 - b. BSP training and awareness activities are planned, including an intensive pathways development and implementation session and how to better utilize business and industry in pathways.
 - c. Planning for development and integration of future pathways.
 - i. 3-year plan.

Career and Technical Education Advisory Board

Board Committee	Name	Position	Organization
Agric, Food & Nat Res	Leanne Hoagland	Director, Career & Technical Division	Dawson Community College
	Tom Welch	College of Technical Sciences	MSU-Northern
Architecture & Construction	Dick Anderson	Owner/ Operator	Dick Anderson Constuction
	Paul Stetzner	Instructor	Helena Capital High School
Arts, A/V Technology & Communications	Tom Kotynski	Career-Technical Education Facilitator	Great Falls Public Schools
	Tim McGonigal	News Anchor	Great Falls KRTV/ KXLH
	Russell Walks	Instructor	Billings Career Center



Bus Management & Administration	Brian Larson	Program Director, Dept. of Business Technology	Missoula College
	Carol Perlinski	President	Town and Country Foods, Inc.
Education & Training	Jodi Morgan	President-elect, Montana School Counselor Association	C/o Thompson Falls High School
	Mike Simon	President	Dawson Community College
Finance	Rich Bruner	President	First Interstate Bank- Billings
	Michael Grove	President	Bank of the Rockies
Government & Public Administration	John Rogers	Director, Economic Development	Governor's Office of Economic Development
	Leisa Smith	Director, State Workforce Board	Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry- Workforce Services Division
Health Science	Dick Brown	President	Montana Hospital Association
	Kristin Juliar	Director	Area Health Education Center
Hospitality & Tourism	Cathy Burwell	President & CEO	Helena Chamber of Commerce
	Thomas Campbell	Instructor, Culinary Arts	Missoula College
Human Services	Jamie Palagi	Administrator, Human & Community Services Division	Montana Dept. of Public Health & Human Services
	Mike Thatcher *	CEO	Community Counseling & Correctional Services, Inc.
Information Technology	Bruce Brumley	Instructor, Computer Technology	City College
	Bruce Gottwig	Director, Network & Microcomputer Support Program & Cisco Networking Academy	Great Falls College
Law, Pub Safety, Corrections & Security	Cindy McKenzie	Administrator, Youth Services Division	Montana Dept of Corrections
	Beth Strandberg	Operations Manager, Montana Law Enforcement Academy	Montana Dept of Justice
Manufacturing	George Cobb	Machinist	King Machine, Inc.
	Steve Holland	Director	MT Manufacturing Extension Center, MSU-Bozeman



Marketing	Donnie Clapp *	Director, Emerging Media	Mercury CSC
	Tim Warner	Independent Consultant	Self-Employed
Science, Tech, Engineering & Math	Laura Gittings-Carlson	Continuing Education Programmer, Chicks in Science	MSU-Billings
	Tom Jungst	Professor, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering	MSU-Bozeman
Transport, Distribution & Logistics	Walt Ainsworth	Executive Manager	Watkins & Shepard

* Invited but has not yet responded