



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

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MEMORANDUM

Date: November 15, 2001

To: Board of Regents
Commissioner Crofts
From: Arlene H. Parisot
Re: State Plan Advisory Committee Update

The first meeting of the Perkins State Plan Advisory Committee was held on November 8, 2001. The Committee members are:

- Greg Brask – Vice President B2 Consulting
- Sally Newhall – Workforce Development Facilitator, Great Falls School District
- Dr. Jim Wenderoth – Associate Dean, Missoula College of Technology
- Sharon Kearnes – Program Director, Miles Community College
- Dwayne Wilson – Agriculture Education, Wolf Point High School
- Dr. Mary Sheehy-Moe – Interim Dean, Great Falls College of Technology

Under Senate Bill 425, the Board of Regents was designated as the eligible agency for the management of Perkins funds. The State Plan Advisory Committee, required by SB 425, serves to make recommendations and/or provide key information and materials to the Board of Regents in regard to the use of Perkins funds to support K-16 career and technical education.

The agenda for the November 8th meeting gave each agency, the Office of Public Instruction and the Office of Commissioner of Higher Education, the opportunity to present their program management areas and the challenges and successes associated with that management process.

Additionally, each advisory committee member was asked to describe what he or she could bring to this committee and their level of understanding of the Perkins legislation. A summary of this interaction is provided to you as an attachment to this memorandum. Of particular interest to the Board are the challenges that were identified by program management staff. These challenges may well direct the efforts of the committee and provide valuable input to the Board.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide an update of the committee's efforts.

**NOTES FROM THE
PERKINS STATE PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2001**

Challenges Identified by Perkins Program Management Staff – OPI and OCHE

Accountability
Application of accountability to Reserve Grants
Tribal colleges involvement
Statewide impact of Nontraditional State Leadership grants
Funding
Teacher shortage
Need for professional development in classroom management and teaching methodology
Serving all projects equitably (many small school and institutions across state)
Student organizations – time intensive for program staff
Continuous program improvement
Need for incentive funding to encourage innovative program and curriculum development
Better connection between secondary and post-secondary
Providing support to agriculture programs – precision agriculture/food safety/value-added

Successes Identified by Perkins Program Management Staff – OPI and OCHE

On project –orientation of new faculty and preparation in teaching methodology
Conference (February, 2002): Role of Two-Year Institutions in Workforce Development
Reserve grants are serving communities with great need
State Leadership Mini-grants – Voice Recognition Training/ Microsoft Office User Specialist
Strong Student Organizations
Development of Precision agriculture/food safety/value-added emphasis at secondary level
MSU Billings ACT Center
Contextual teaching and learning Institute (CTL)

Perspectives State Plan Advisory Committee Members Provide

Understands technology and supports the need for students to have strong technical skills
Believes partnerships will expand student opportunity and support economic development
Thinks restructuring opened doors for students and increased opportunity
Wants our youth to be able to obtain good paying jobs in Montana
Understands the need to connect education to economic development
Seeks to move seamless from a concept to a reality
Hopes to build strong a relationship with secondary education