

Michigan Adult Education Practitioners Task Forces

**Accountability Task Force**  
1.30.2009 Midland, MI 8:30 A.M.

**Meeting Minutes**

1. **Call to order:** Doug calls the meeting to order at 8:45 A.M.
2. **Roll call:** Dawn Sanchez (East Detroit Public Schools), Rich Klemm (Niles Schools), Gregg Dionne (Hazel Park Schools), Cliff Akujobi (DLEG), Julie DeRose (Department of Corrections), Bob Steeh (Novi Schools), Henry McCurry (Walled Lake Schools), Megan Byard (White Lake Area Schools), Marilyn Reichardt (Fruitport Community Schools), Coni Banks (MDOC), Doug Wood (Orchard View Community education), Mary Murphy (Mt. Pleasant Public Schools), Gloria Henry (Grant Education Center), Jeff McNeal (ETC), Robin Soergel (East Detroit), Bob Rickard (Houghton Lake), David Porter (Detroit), Bob Rickard (Houghton Lake)
3. **Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Minutes reviewed and approved.
4. **Open issues**
  - a. Agenda accepted
  - b. Spring conference Sessions reviewed. Deadline for Session submissions is February 15, 2009. Gregg and Doug to follow up to submit sessions by deadline.
5. **New business:**
  - a. Updates from Cliff
    - i. Assessment Policy: Comprehensive policy discussed by Cliff
      1. Refer to Office of Adult Education Participants (2009) Technical Assistance Paper and NRS Assessment Policy Checklist distributed at the meeting.
    - ii. NWLB Grant information is available on Adult Education website
    - iii. Federal grant awards will be opened up mirroring the NWLB grant process rather than a continuation. The Spring Conference will be considered the public meeting regarding this. The focus will be on collaboration and the need to articulate transitions.
    - iv. Orientation for grant recipients will be available through MACAE: March 30, 2009 in Okemos, MI

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- v. Accountability will be determined by job obtainment at the federal level and moving to post-secondary education at the state level.
  - vi. Erika Nakfoor is the contact person for Information regarding the rubrics for grant awards.
- b. The Task Force broke into subcommittees for small group work.
6. **Next steps:** Group reconvenes to discuss subcommittee work. Subcommittee work reported out.
- a. Transitions:
    - i. Position Statement discussed and will be forwarded by ATF
    - ii. Dept. of corrections to work on informational guide regarding transitions pertaining to corrections, Adult Education programs, and other community agencies as appropriate.
    - iii. Other discussion included below.
      - 1. Identifying “accountable” transitions
      - 2. Sharing of data between programs
      - 3. Draft of a transition process for dissemination to be developed for next meeting
  - b. Ben Williams discusses GED policy updates with group
    - i. National Office is developing requirements for testing centers. This will be shared with ATF when Ben receives it.
    - ii. Homeschool students: The current documentation required for testing of these students under the age of eighteen is an affirmation letter from the parent that is signed and dated. Ben will follow up with Dianne on this and report back to ATF.
    - iii. GED as alternative pathway to graduation: state criteria for passing score discussed.
  - c. Curriculum: See Notes attached.

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d. Assessment Policy: The Assessment Policy subcommittee has scheduled some tentative presentation dates for the implementation of assessment policy updates. Jeff, Bob, and Cliff will present the information. SB-CEUs should be available. See schedule below.

- i. 2/20/2009: Clare, MI 9-12
- ii. 2/23/2009: Novi, MI 9-12
- iii. 2/24/2009: Lansing, MI 9-12

7. Meeting adjourned by Doug at 2:50 P.M.

January 30, 2009

ATF - Curriculum Subcommittee work session notes

Members present: Megan Byard, and Marilyn Reichardt, plus three Curriculum TF members (Nancy Rotarius, Mary Anne Thorndycraft, Jane Rudisill) Respectfully submitted by Megan Byard

Discussion:

- Clarifying the MDE document on what the new MMC is and the term diploma that follows. AE is only mentioned once in the entire 90 page document, indicating t references for the pupil age student only. Agreement from MaryAlice Galloway indicates the need to address AE in the Q/A document for future reference.
- Dianne Duthie is aware of the above issue and will be requesting a meeting with staff from the MDE to determine where AE fits into the requirements. Deb Clemens is the MDE contact, and Nancy is the DELEG representative who will be facilitating the meeting.
- It is known that anyone who is scheduled to graduate in 2011 or after due to birth year of 1993 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade status as of 2006, WILL BE required to meet all MMC requirements in order to receive a diploma. Those adults who were in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade many years before 2006 may have some choices for their HSD credentials. Those include:
  - 1) District discretion in offering a separate grad set credit requirement different from the MMC.
  - 2) Acquiring a GED
  - 3) Acquiring a NCRC (National Career Readiness Certificate) through Work Keys
  - 4) A Michigan Merit Diploma as any other student in the year 2011 is obtaining
  - 5) A Michigan Merit Diploma with access to a personal curriculum arrangement

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Next Steps:

Clarify the definition of Diploma and whether or not the term is “trademarked” after 2011. Will we be able to call an alternate credential for older adults a “diploma” if it indeed does not meet MMC standards?

- Legally do personal curriculums established by local districts follow students to new districts including AE?
- Is it an option for local districts to decide to have two diplomas, one identifying the MMC standards and one with exemptions for older AE students?
- Subcommittee will facilitate questions for Dianne Duthie to take back to the MDE for further discussion. Review and questions will be formulated and agreed upon via email by the ATF group and Curriculum subcommittee. Based on finding with MDE dialogue, the subcommittee will also draft a policy for all programs to implement, follow and refer to.
- The curriculum subcommittee will also be re-drafting the language in the AE Guidebook highlighting the new MMC changes and its definitions/requirements. The last update was in 2004.