**Virginia Department of Education**

**Adult Education and Literacy Advisory Committee Meeting**

March 10, 2022

10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Center for Teacher Leadership

3600 W Broad Street, Suite 300

Richmond, Virginia

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees**: Ms. Tammy Dean (Chair), Ms. Rebecca Hughes (Co-Chair), Dr. Rodney Berry, Ms. Nausha Brown-Chavez, Ms. Roxana Mejia, Mr. Allan Melton, Mr. Duncan Quicke, Ms. Anna Rice-Wright,

VDOE Staff: Dr. David Eshelman, Dr. Heidi Silver-Pacuilla and Ms. Sarah Deputy

**Guests**: Dr. Kim McKnight, Director of VCU’s Center for Teacher Leadership

Dr. Kate Rolander, Interim Manager of the Virginia Adult Learning Resource Center at VCU

Mr. Barry Trott, Adult Services Consultant, Library of Virginia

Ms. Nan Carmack, Director of Library Development and Networking Division

Mr. Sean McCusty, Alignment Director, Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI)

**Call to Order and Review of Agenda**

Chair Tammy Dean opened the meeting at 10:07 a.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Member Introductions and Acknowledgments**

Dr. David Eshelman was introduced as new CTE Director at VDOE. Dr. Eshelman thanked the committee for the welcome and recognized the 47 years of public service by his predecessor, Mr. George Willcox.

Ms. Tammy Dean also recognized the two members whose second term was set to expire on June 30, 2022, Dr. Sharon Mullen and Ms. Anna Rice-Wright. She announced that there would be three available openings on the committee and a call for nominations was forthcoming.

Approval of March 11, 2021 minutes by was motioned and passed unanimously.

***Collaboration with Virginia Public Libraries***

Ms. Nan Carmack, Director of Library Development and Networking Division

Mr. Barry Trott, Adult Services Consultant, Library of Virginia

Ms. Carmack and Mr. Trott presented freely available resources for adult learners through Virginia’s public libraries. These resources were funded through CARES Act funds and the Library is encouraging use by adults and families to validate their continued subscription. Resources ranged from *Find It Virginia*, a collection of databases, learning projects, e-books, and digital audiobooks for all Virginians for all ages at finditva.com, to on-demand tutoring and homework help, and online self-paced language learning through *Rocket Languages*.

The committee then discussed how these resources could be used collaboratively with adult education programs and learners as well as additional collaboration opportunities.

***Introduction to the Center for Teacher Leadership, Virginia Commonwealth University***

Dr. Kim McKnight, Director, Center for Teacher Leadership

Dr. Kate Rolander, Interim Manager, VALRC

Dr. McKnight provided an overview of the Center’s history and important initiatives, including the Richmond Teacher Residency (RTR) program, the New Teacher Center Training coaching initiative, and the successful award of federal earmarks to support early educators in Virginia. Dr. Rolander presented the restructuring of the VALRC since last program year and recent highlights from the Center’s work.

***Follow-up on Apprenticeship Opportunities and Adult Education***

Sean McCusty, Alignment Director, Department of Labor and Industry

Mr. McCusty presented to the committee a follow-up to the October 2021 meeting. Since that time, he and the VDOE team have updated fact sheets that speak more clearly to businesses and are working on workforce development initiatives to expand understanding of pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship career pathways. Mr. McCusty emphasized the work of DOLI to help employers seek diverse candidates and underrepresented populations for apprenticeships.

The DOLI website was shared: Find a Sponsor Near You (by locality): <https://www.doli.virginia.gov/apprenticeship/sponsor-list/>

***WIOA Combined State Plan, Two-Year Modification***

Dr. Heidi Silver-Pacuilla, Adult Education Coordinator, presented updates to the WIOA Combined State Plan as well as highlights from the program office. In the past year, the VDOE has helped programs invest federal funds in expanding instruction and learning through the purchase of technology (laptop loaners, hot spot), providing professional development for high-quality remote instruction, adding specialized staff to serve students across a region (career coaches, tutors, digital navigators), and coordinating service for new refugee families. Challenges that remained in the second disrupted year include low enrollment, closed correctional facilities, and teacher shortages.

The committee was informed of a change in PluggedInVA funding which shifted from being offered through a competition to a formula-driven allocation to all Title II adult education programs. The new funding model will enable the programs to expand IET programming and support associated costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Next Committee Meeting Date: October 13, 2022