

WACTE Deans and Directors' meeting – April 24, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President-Elect, Tariq Akmal

Introductions were given with each attendee telling something personal about themselves.

Joyce Westgard explained the annual dues, which are due June 30. The dues are based on an average of the last 3 years of completers from an institution's programs. If an institution chooses to use a credit card, there will be a 3.5% fee since that is what the credit card company charges WACTE to process the payment.

A summary of the Day on the Hill with the Washington State Legislature in January was presented. There was active involvement by WACTE members and issues relevant to education were discussed with legislators and/or staffers. A one-sheet outline of the issues was left in each office visited for the legislator to review. Plans are being made for another Day on the Hill in January 2020. Deans and directors were encouraged to use the legislative off-season to continue to build relationships with the legislators.

The Deans and directors were advised that the PESB cannot ask institutions to lobby for the PESB point of view on a specific piece of legislation. Conversation has been held by the WACTE leadership with the PESB staff to reinforce this point.

New members were accepted into WACTE membership: Northwest Educational Development, Grays Harbor College, and Lower Columbia College.

Bylaws and policy and procedure documents will be reviewed by the WACTE Executive Board at their summer retreat.

The fall meeting will be held in October at the Red Lion – SeaTac – date to be determined. The first choice for dates will be October 23 and 24 due to the last week of the October including Halloween, and the second choice would be the Tuesday/Wednesday of the last week of October prior to Halloween. The January meeting will be held at PLU in Tacoma in conjunction with the Day on the Hill in Olympia. The April meeting will be held in Spokane. Joyce requested that attendees register early as hotels need to make appropriate arrangements for meeting rooms and food. The cost for hotels has been approximately \$8000.00 per meeting with the exception of the CEEDAR meeting at the Marriott, which cost approximately \$15,000.

The issue of having sponsors for meeting was presented and a committee will be established to set the rules for consideration.

The WACTE treasurer and Joyce have moved the budget records to Quickbooks. Hedlund Tax and Accounting has been hired to facilitate this process. With the CEEDAR monies and other possible grants, this move has been necessary.

A discussion ensued regarding workforce data, capacity, and collective objectives based on the PESB report: Educator Shortage in Washington State. Topics covered by the group included:

Tone of the discussion regarding workforce data

Competition woven with collaboration

Necessity of a reliable and consistent data system

Reciprocal agreements

What does WACTE wish to reinforce in the use of the workforce data:

Economic drivers

Complexity of forecasting

Capacity within programs – recognizing the differences in program design – If the numbers of seats available is not changing with the addition of so many new programs, why is it not? Capacity needs to be defined in a more robust way. Alternative routes and program availability need to be aspects of the capacity issue, including other nuanced perspectives.

Paraeducators have been asked what they need to move forward, should we be asking the same of people who are considering teaching? What might we do to counsel students who are considering teaching? WACTE may wish to collaborate with CSTEP and other education professional organizations, i.e. principals and superintendents. What is the role of the ESD's?

What is the role of cultural competence in attracting candidates to our programs?

The way in which the PESB is using teacher shortage numbers.

Think about recrafting shortage language.

Having the PESB probe more deeply into new program applications

What additional information do we need, i.e. teachers coming in from out of state

What is the breaking point in the system?

What purposeful data is needed and what in-depth data is needed?

Teacher shortage is driven by demographics, geography, and content area – these need to be considerations.

An issue with the edTPA was brought forward by Keith Lambert with regard to student voice and seemingly inconsistent scoring for Whitworth, especially in the area of elementary literacy. He has queried other institutions, and some reported perceived issues within their programs. Pearson has acknowledged errors, and Nathan Estel from Pearson has stated that student voice is early in the calibration process for Washington. This presents an issue since student voice becomes consequential this fall 2019. Keith brought up the idea of using multiple measures rather than retesting if candidates meet certain criteria. New York has adopted this system. Keith encouraged institutions to make public comment regarding their situations at the May PESB meeting. This issue would be similar to the West-B in that it would move to eliminate testing barriers.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Straub, recording secretary

