

Gender Equity Advisory Committee Meeting

September 29, 2009

10 a.m.

Conference Room 1 South A
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North 1st Street
Springfield, IL 62675

Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

Lolita Hardiman called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. Introductions showed the following present:

Wanda Andrews, I-STEP Coordinator, Illinois Department of Labor

Lolita Hardiman, Department of College and Career Preparation, Chicago Public Schools

Nancy Chen, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of labor

Paul Nijensohn, Illinois State Board of Education

Deborah Hopper, Illinois State Board of Education

Ruth Sweetser, American Association of University Women-IL, Inc.

Debbie Potts, Education Specialist, Illinois Office of Educational Services

Jessica Sklarsky

Libbie Grennan

Minutes

Paul Nijensohn moved that the May 19, 2009 minutes be approved. Ruth Sweetser seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Partner Updates

Nancy Chen reviewed the agenda for the October 20, 2009 roundtable: Green Jobs for Women. The agenda covers global, state and local initiatives. She also noted the new US Secretary of Labor, Hilda L. Solis is very supportive of the promotion of green jobs and many green jobs are considered non-traditional for women.

Ruth Sweetser, AAUW, shared information regarding the National Girls Collaborative Project which is devoted to increasing the number of girls interested in STEM across the country and encouraged members to register their gender equity projects in the NGCP program directory. This project is in the 3rd year of a 5 year grant process.

ISBE Update

Debbie Hopper noted that Mark Williams has received the formal submission from Chair Lolita Hardiman on the review and suggestions to the Illinois Administrative Code Part 200 Sex Equity rules.

ISBE is converting programs from 1990 and Illinois specific Classification of Instructional Programs (CIPs) to 2000. Illinois will be using only Federal CIPs and they are non-traditionally recognized.

STEM Equity Pipeline Project-Illinois submitted to continue with the project. Illinois also continues to be a member state of the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity.

ISBE Leadership Updates

ICSPS-Debbie Hopper shared a handout/communication from ICSPS of activities that may be of interest to attendees. Handouts on the National Girls Collaborative Project Program Directory and the Taking the Road Less Traveled II Educators Tool Kit to Prepare Students for Nontraditional Careers were also provided.

IOES-Debbie Potts shared that the website has been updated. (www.ioes.org) The CTE Works journal is shared weekly and is archived on the website. Debbie also discussed the document "Because I am a Girl" and Thinkfinity.

Subcommittee Update

Same Sex Classrooms/Schools-Discussion was held regarding members current knowledge of research, pilot projects, and references to provide clarity to the investigation of single sex classrooms. Members will send links to share with committee.

WAGE Update with Ruth Sweetser

Women Are Getting Even (WAGE) has partnered with many organizations to provide trainings and workshops. Topics include how to get and negotiate vacation, time, etc. Focus is on educating young women on campuses, Brownie groups, etc. and is a great compliment to pay equity. Additional information is available on the AAUW website. Currently there are 212 facilitators and more workshops are coming. Nancy Chen shared that there will be a National Community on Pay Equity Webinar in the near future that is geared for professional women. She will send link.

Equal Pay and VESSA Update with Wanda Andrews

Wanda provided copies of the HB3634 Equal pay Act and SB1770 Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act. She highlighted the changes of each. Updates are posted at www.state.il.us/Agency/idol. Currently 417 complaints have been received (mainly women), 117 complaints to VESSA. Awareness continues to be a struggle and they are looking for new avenues to increase awareness.

Next Steps

The 2010 dates will be March 12 in Chicago and September 28 in Springfield.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 am.