General Advisory Council Educational Service Center, C3 December 9, 2008 – 2:30 – 4 p.m.

Attendees: Murray Reid, Angel Lopez, Terri Drayer

Staff: Carl Fender, Lauren Hadley

Welcome – Introduction
As a volunteer, what makes you feel valued?
Why did you get involved on an advisory committee?

A: Personal experiences. Input comes out of the committee. When I come to the table, I ask "what can I give back." One thing I feel I bring are the resources of my experience and my agency.

M: I want to contribute in a way that is beneficial to the district and the district's goals. Understanding those goals helps me to provide feedback.

T: Making sure the large employer is represented. The more we work together we can provide more opportunities for students. As a parent I want to know how I can help in the system because there are many paths for kids to take to be successful. Again, the better I can understand our goals as a committee; I can understand how those goals shape our work.

M: Do you as staff feel supported by district administration? One way we can help as committee members is to advocate for the work and programs you offer.

Trends – what is the occupational outlook in your field?

T: Workers hired in the last two years are unskilled. We have a leadership gap in middle management. Our other challenge is that we are running old and new technology concurrently.

C: Our programs are driven by staff. How does it work in this time of recession and lack of funds for students to get the education they need for these jobs? Are there education programs available to train workers?

A: Worksouce is heavily pushing apprenticeship programs and short term degrees.

I see that so much of it is the perception of education administrators that naysay these programs, but without them there is no buffer.

What is the most valuable evaluation tool you use to assess your programs?

A: Worksource uses ID cards to track utilization of services. However we have had to balance services with staff. We have had to cut back and focus on core services and due to funding have had to reduce everything including enrollment.

T: Our engineering time is tied directly to sales and quota attainment. Relationships are key. We look at prioritization, core deliverables, statement of work and track by the hour how time is spend. We have deliberate discussions about what our priorities are and we look at cost targets. We have to quantify why we make decisions.

WAVE scholarship application review – request for volunteers Angel and Murray

Agenda items for next meeting

- Completer data
- Program review data
- Other advisory discussions what is the whole picture
- Ways that GAC can help programs more
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- Any pre-meeting thinking sent ahead

4:00 Adjourn

Upcoming meetings: March 3, 2009 & May 5, 2009