

TRANSMITTAL # 1

MEMORANDUM

January 28, 2005

TO: Workforce Development Council

FROM: Roger B. Madsen, Director

SUBJECT: A Shared Vision for Youth—Creating a collaborative approach to prepare youth for success in a global economy

ACTION REQUESTED: Information only

BACKGROUND:

Recently, representatives of organizations serving youth attended a federal forum to learn about a shared vision (attached for members—may *also be viewed at* <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL3-04.pdf>) for meeting the needs of the country's youth. The U.S. Departments of Labor, Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services hosted this event. The purpose was to assist state teams from the workforce investment, education, juvenile justice, and foster care agencies to better align services to youth under a vision shared across state agencies and begin action planning around the vision. The meeting sought to develop the following among the attendees:

1. A deeper understanding among state and local partners in labor, education (secondary and adult basic education), human services and justice systems for their respective responsibilities in meeting the needs of youth, and how collaborative efforts can help them better achieve their goals.
2. A clear understanding of the New Youth Vision being adopted within Department of Labor funded youth programs and how action on that Vision (alternative education, business demand-driven, neediest youth, and improved performance) will help all partners reach program objectives.
3. A working knowledge of current and noteworthy practices that exist in the field that models effective collaboration among systems and improved outcomes for youth and state partners.
4. A clear assessment of the challenges state partners will face during the development and early implementation of this shared vision, as well as the support they can anticipate receiving from government agency partners as they move forward.

During this federal forum, it was determined that the existing state agency workgroup established for the Policy Academy would be an appropriate group to discuss any new collaborative efforts focusing on our youth. Recently, the Idaho delegation invited the impacted state agencies to participate in a meeting to share the information gained at this forum and to determine Idaho's approach for implementation. Once the responses have been assessed, the team will make a recommendation to the Council on establishing Idaho's vision for youth.

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Attachment (members only)