

President's Report August 2008

Since our last meeting June 8, I have been working with PAACE's response to the Pennsylvania Economy League report recommending that oversight of Workforce Investment Act Title II money be transferred from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to the Department of Labor and Industry. Thus far, PAACE has crafted and sent a letter to Gov. Rendell, copied to key individuals; set up an online petition at gopetition.com, which will be sent to the Governor and all state legislators; and provided some tips and guidelines for advocating to keep Adult Basic and Literacy Education in the Department of Education. We have been publicizing the petition and response has been good and growing. The petition closes August 7.

I received a note from Dr. Kathleen Shaw, Deputy Secretary for Postsecondary and Higher Education, thanking PAACE for responding to the PEL report with a "thorough, thoughtful, and constructive" letter to the Governor.

I want to thank JoAnn Weinberger, past president Sandy Strunk, and everyone else who has been involved in PAACE's response to the PEL report. I also thank the board for your support in reviewing the letter, voting to approve it, and encouraging members and others to sign the petition.

Monica and I have been discussing business procedures and will inform the board of procedural changes and approvals as they become ready.

To join the board meeting by conference call on Tuesday, August, 5:
Call toll-free: 866.740.1260
Passcode: 1708

Tana Reiff
TIU Community Education Services
President, PAACE
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First Vice President's Report

Hello Everyone,
Many items have been in the works this month.

- Monica and I have been discussing the format of the RFP and how it should work in Gift Tool. We are also planning on setting up the exhibitor application as well in Gift Tool. Once the format is complete in Gift Tool we will ask a few people to go in and review and test the system. This will take place in August. If you want to volunteer to help with this process please let me know.
- We have reviewed the meals and have worked on fees for the conference.
- Monica has begun working with Sue Snider over the meals and planning for the various meal functions.
- An email went to Martin Bean to see of his availability for Keynote. He was not available. He gave me the name of General Manager of Education in the United States, Anthony Salcito. I have sent him an email and so far have not heard back. I am not certain if he will be appropriate as a Keynote but maybe I can discuss

with him the idea of Honorary chair. So it may be back to the drawing board for who to ask for keynote.

- The logo was developed by Tana. It is attached.
- Tana has also shared last year's PAACE conference sponsorship.
- An email has gone out to Gary Dean about AERC and if there will be an alignment with PAACE Conference. That still has not been resolved.
- I am hoping to have a conference planning meeting in September and January and hopefully a preliminary conference planning call in August for the people who decided to be on the various committees. Chuck Klinger has set up a listserv and we are currently testing it out.

Speak to you all on the conference call

Thanks!

Diane

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Board Director's Report

I have been working with Diane on the conference planning. The Request for Proposals and Vendor registration will be done through GiftTool to streamline the paperwork. Currently, I'm editing the Conference registration pages in GiftTool and setting up the RFP and vendor registration. All of these will be complete shortly. We are looking to release the RFP in mid Aug. Sue Snider and I went over the conference menu. With a few exceptions, it is pretty well decided. Menu selections will help to determine the meal fees and the conference fee. Diane will put these costs forth shortly.

I have been working with Tana on business procedures and with Suzanne on streamlining membership. In archiving documents sent to me, I couldn't locate the insurance policy. I've been working to procure quotes for a D & O policy as well as a General Liability policy per our contract with the Hershey Lodge.

Finally, arrangements for the September and December meetings are set. October and January are still in progress as usual locations have been booked.

Talk to you Tuesday!

Monica

Second Vice President's Report

The draft of the strategic plan is attached (below) and will need to be approved at the board meeting (conference call). Please look it over one last time and let me know of any changes or corrections that are proposed.

We will do more work on the implementation of the plan in September.

Thanks much,
Lori

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PAACE Strategic Plan 2008-2011

MISSION

PAACE is a nonprofit educational association whose mission is to enable its diverse members to help adults achieve educational goals, to exercise leadership for adult education, and to advocate lifelong learning as vital to economic security and social equality.

ADVOCACY

Goal: Increase adult education advocacy efforts and visibility at the state and national levels.

Objectives:

- Provide PAACE members with timely information on state and national adult education issues.
- Provide opportunities for adult educators to become more active in advocacy efforts.
- Establish and/or maintain relationships with state and federal public officials.

MEMBER SERVICES

Goal: Expand membership base and increase member participation in the organization.

Objectives:

- Educate the adult education community about PAACE member services.
- Expand opportunities for communicating and community building.
- Develop communication channels to solicit input from PAACE membership.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Strengthen the effectiveness of the board of directors.

Objectives:

- Develop methods and materials to recruit and orient new board members.
- Develop a board operations and policy manual.
- Provide activities aimed at building board team and meeting effectiveness.

FISCAL AFFAIRS

Goal: Strengthen PAACE's financial position to assure resources are available to meet initiatives.

Objectives:

- Establish and maintain a budget development process that matches PAACE's resources to the organization's strategic plan.
- Develop a budgetary process that assures timely, accurate, and easily understood financial reports to board members.
- Analyze short- and long-term investment opportunities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Identify and provide quality professional development opportunities in adult education.

Objectives:

- Stage an annual conference, the content of which reflects current knowledge, practice, and developments in the broad field of adult education.
- Promote research in practical areas of adult education.
- Establish partnerships with other organizations to expand professional development opportunities for members.

Legislative Report

PLAN TO BE ON THE CONFERENCE CALL ON TUESDAY.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Planning for activities related to the PEL recommendation to transfer of ABLE from the Department of Education to the Department of Labor & Industry –that's been the heart of the Legislative Committee's work. This has included input into the letter to the Governor, the petition, how to obtain signatories, follow-up to the petition with the Governor and legislators, and planning to support members' contacts with their legislators.

On the federal level, the following represents information on a new bill for the House and the Senate on adult education. I am sharing this with the Board now. I want to wait to share it with members so they can focus on contacting state legislators re the PEL recommendation.

On July 24, Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA) and Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) introduced in the House and Senate the **Strengthening Communities through Education and Integration Act**. The bill honors the significant economic, social, and cultural contributions that immigrants have made to the U.S., and will help immigrants become more involved in their new communities by adding resources to help them learn English.

Highlights of the Strengthening Communities through Education and Integration Act:

- Increases the government's investment in adult education programs for English language learners with new appropriations of \$200 million in FY 2009, increasing to \$300 million by FY 2011 for state grants to programs with integrated English literacy and civics programs
- Increases the authorization for Even Start family literacy programs to \$350 million
- Includes technical assistance for grant applications made by community-based organizations
- Calls for a study of the effectiveness of distance learning and self-study programs for English language learners
- Requires the National Institute for Literacy to research the most effective ways of improving the literacy skills of adults with reading difficulties
- Calls for the creation of a national adult education and literacy research and development center
- Creates a \$1,500 tax credit for teachers of English language learners
- Provides tax incentives for employers who offer their employees adult education and ESL programs

While the bill is in the early stages of the legislative process, it would help its future success if it has as many co-sponsors as possible. **Ask your member of Congress to co-sponsor the bill, H.R. 6617/S. 3334!**

Because ProLiteracy is headquartered in New York State, we are a constituent of Sen. Clinton. We have contacted her office to offer our support as the bill progresses.

For a copy of the complete bill, go to <http://www.thomas.gov> and type HR 6617 in the Search field.

Report submitted by:

*JoAnn Weinberger
Legislative Chair*

Western Regional Rep Report

- been trying to assist in getting the word out about the petition
- hosted tours of our facility for various representative staff from local congressmen.

Alexander Dow

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TLC Report

Unfortunately I will not be able to participate in the upcoming conference call; here is a "brief" TLC update.

Yesterday an e-mail was sent out to PA literacy programs regarding the services that can be provided by TLC. Some of TLC's goals for the new year are addressed in that e-mail; I will attach a copy of the letter that was sent (the content of the e-mail and the letter are the same). Please feel free to share this letter with any programs that may not have received it.

The tutor trainer training process being conducted by TLC, Pearls of Wisdom, has resulted in 12 future TLC Trainers of Tutors who will soon be TLC "certified" Trainers ready to provide tutor trainings. Together these trainers and I are going to take a look at the 12 hour Basic Tutor training that TLC has used for ages, mesh it with tutor trainings that other programs have been using, and combine the best of the best. If you, or agencies with which you work, have tutor training manuals that could be shared, I would greatly appreciate receiving a copy. Numerous programs have already generously shared their trainings, so we have lots of great resources to peruse. [A similar process was gone through when developing the Just in Time tutor training (more information can be provided on request).]

TLC is continuing to coordinate the Intensive Tutoring Services (ITS) Impact Initiative and the 10 participating programs. With the pilot period under their belts, I am confident these programs will continue to prove the worth of the extra resources being provided.

Thanks and see you in September.

Kim

Family Literacy Division Report:

The Division Co-Chairs met on July 22 to share ideas and begin preparation for this year's conference activities. Our goal is to involve more members of the Family Literacy Division in conference activities and planning this year. Our division also appreciates and actively supports all of the organization's efforts regarding the PEL report.

Lori McMonigal and Katherine Vastine
Family Literacy Division Co-Chairs

Communications Report

Hi everyone,

The Summer edition of PAACE news has been posted. Thank you to everyone that has helped me to update the conference and advocacy pages. There will be some additional updates to both of those pages coming soon including the new conference logo and adding some information that Alex provided to me for the advocacy page. The Fall edition of PAACE news is published in September. I know it's a way off, but the summer edition was a little thin so please think of articles or news that may be of interest to your division, region, or all PAACE members.

Thanks for your help!
Destiny

p.s. I will be attending a conference during the week of the PAACE conference call. Sorry I won't be able to join in.

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Membership Report

Tana, Monica, and I have been discussing membership procedures and would like to propose changing memberships to renew on a common date (December 1) starting this year. Making this change would streamline the membership management process and eliminate the need for membership cards and hundreds of separate email notifications during the year. The revenue lost due to the switch should not be significant. I will have data regarding the current membership expiration dates ready for the meeting.

Suzanne Webster
Membership chair