

West Kern Adult Education Network

Oct., 2016

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Trailer estimate -

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT: Update

CLASSES -

- **CTE: WESTEC** classes started with 31 students and ended with 29. Normal retention rate for WESTEC classes (per instructor) is 60%. Continental Labor & Staffing attended the last class and recruited students for some of their positions on the Greater West Side.
 - Plans: Host a Spanish speaking class in January. Host an English speaking class in spring

Message on WKAEN Facebook yesterday:

"i took your westec class a last week and proud to say i have a pre work orientation tomorrow keep up the great work"

- **Spanish GED -**
 - **Taft** - Approx 20 regular students. Classroom attendance expected to increase with work in fields decreasing
 - Planned outreach: Facebook, Flyers, Catholic church outreach with TUHS teacher
 - **Maricopa** – 2 regular students.
 - Outreach: Banner has been placed recently – Attend school events.

Challenges: Many of the students come in with less than 9th grade education. Instructors are providing ABE along with GED prep instruction. Students want individualized tutoring.

Possible solutions: Add tutors to existing class schedule

- **English GED –**
 - Between 15 – 20 regular students in both AM & PM classes. WKAEN continues to receive intakes each week and there is a short waiting list.
 - Plans – possible afternoon class if demand increases
- **ESL –**
 - Approximately 15 regular students in Level 1 and 5 regular students in Level 2
 - Plans - Facebook outreach / Possible additional class in local elementary school
- **Citizenship –**
 - Twelve students in Buena Vista class / Four students in Methodist Church class
 - Plans – Schedule next class for spring 2017 / Outreach at Catholic church, on Facebook and at local gathering spots

STUDENT SERVICES

- Testing reimbursement issue: Although the board had previously approved reimbursing students for GED test, Taft College needs official board minutes to reimburse students for tests taken but failed. Request the Board to approve the following:
 - “While grant funds are available, WKAEN will pay for three official GED/HiSET testing attempts per section, per calendar year. Students who fail a test will need instructor approval in order to qualify for second or third grant. Instructor will contact Testing Center via email approving student for additional testing.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

2016 AEGV Annual Summit - November 1-2, 2016 Sacramento, CA

GED Graduation – October 27

BUDGET

- Budget excess needs to be spent by December 2017 \$522,000
- **Recent expenditures**
 - Classroom Furniture \$26,000
 - Office Furniture \$21,000
 - The Fort \$28,800 (Two year lease of classroom)
 - Text Books \$2,376
 - Graduation \$3,500
 - Total \$81,676
- **Possible uses for budget excess**
 - Paying Office lease for 2 years \$ 14,400
 - Additional 10 AZTEC licenses for Evening GED class \$ 3,750
 - Outreach Trailer for Workforce Readiness \$ 95,000
 - Van \$ 50,000
 - Workforce Readiness Project Director (wages & benefits) \$85,000
 - Dean of Students \$85,000
 - Storage Pod \$ 3,500
 - Providing GED instructor for TCI (Taft federal prison) (30 hrs per week) \$100,000
 - Providing Supplies & Equipment for Taft MCCF (Taft state prison) – 126 students \$ 30,000
 - Total \$466,650

POSSIBLE PROJECTS

- **Workforce Readiness:**

Federal prison has hundreds of inmates waiting for GED classes but the prison is having problems finding staff with instructors at \$23 per hour (Full time position with benefits).

Taft MCCF is requesting assistance for software, computer & supplies to expand their GED/HSE program.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tentative November 16 pending Consortium members schedules