

Did you know...?

Since 1990, the percentage of young people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither working nor in school has increased by 5 percent, to a national average of 14.7 percent in 2010

(Source: U.S. News and World Report, 2014)

Senate Passes WIA Reauthorization

Last Wednesday, the Senate passed H.R. 803, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), a bill to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) by a vote of 95 to 3. WIOA contains several NGA priorities including reaffirmation of the governors' 15 percent set-aside, common accountability metrics measuring all federal workforce programs and preservation of gubernatorial authority over state workforce investment boards. WIOA is the result of months of negotiation between bipartisan Senate and House staff. The bill now proceeds to the House where it is expected to be considered after the Fourth of July recess. House Education and the Workforce Chairman John Kline (R-MN), stated that he expected that the House will send the bill to the President's desk "without delay." NGA released a statement praising Senate action and urging the House to act on the legislation. The White House also released a [Statement of Administration Policy](#), supporting passage of the bill.

Higher education scrambles to get ready for the Common Core

College and university educators will be gathering this summer to prepare for changes to accommodate the imminent arrival of students being taught in dramatically new ways.

Even though the Common Core has been promoted as a means of better preparing America's children for college and careers, higher education officials have, for the most part, gotten involved only late in the process.

Read the complete *Hechinger Report* article here: http://hechingerreport.org/content/higher-education-scrambles-get-ready-common-core_16473/

OEIB subcommittee continues progress on GED proposal

The *OEIB Bulletin* announced that the Equity and Partnerships Subcommittee met to refine their policy proposal and recommend strategic investments to increase the number of students successfully completing the GED. Currently in Oregon, only 75% of students complete high school and the GED tests are the only alternative way for students to reach this critical achievement. The committee heard a presentation about a novel program that addresses two key areas of their proposal: community and public partnerships, and reaching out to underserved students.

Jorge Gutierrez, from the Lower Columbia Hispanic Council (LCHC), has led the startup of a new program on the north coast of Oregon to serve Spanish speaking students, most of whom are in their 20's and 30's. Gutierrez engineered a partnership between his organization and Clatsop Community College, whereby students get general math and reading instruction as well as specific preparation for the Spanish version of the GED. Many of these students are also studying English.

With financial support from Pacific Power and US Bank, and facilities and services supplied by Clatsop Community College, in one year Gutierrez enrolled 30 students in the new program. Ten earned their GED and thus reached the 40/40/20 goal. The trusted and culturally specific LCHC encouraged and supported these students to cross a barrier that will allow them to advance their career and/or pursue higher education.

This type of outreach activity, the partnership with a public community college and the business support, is a model of the type of program that can scale-up across the state and provide unique regional solutions. The committee thanked Gutierrez for his leadership and discussed how their policy proposal and investments can be crafted to support similar activities for more students.

MyGED™ now available in Spanish

As of June 23, students can sign up, schedule, and check their scores in English or Spanish using MyGED™. To access MyGED™ in Spanish, tell your students to go to GED.com and click on “Español” in the upper right corner of the page. Once they do, they can log in to MyGED™ to:

- Schedule their test
- Check their scores
- Review their Enhanced Score Report and study recommendations
- Find information on study materials
- Review test tips
- Access college and career information



As you check out the new site, be sure to send us any feedback, including language that we could make clearer for your students: Teresa Alonso Leon, teresa.alonsoleon@state.or.us.

Webinar: Facilitating remote and online meetings – essential success skills

Northwest Environmental Training Center (NWETC) is sponsoring three 2-hour webinar sessions in August. All attendees will receive prepared material, demonstrations of online facilitation techniques and tools, and access to resources you can use after the course.

Additional information and webinar registration is located at: <https://nwetc.org/course-catalog/facilitating-remote-and-online-meetings-essential-success-skills-webinar>

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and Subcommittee Meetings

<http://education.oregon.gov/Pages/HECC-Meeting-Materials.aspx>

Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) and Subcommittee Meetings

<http://education.oregon.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) Meeting Dates

http://www.oregon.gov/gov/skilled_workforce/Pages/Vision%20and%20Strategic%20Plan.aspx

HECC-OWIB Joint Task Force Meetings

http://www.oregon.gov/gov/skilled_workforce/Pages/HECC-OWIB-Joint-Task-Force.aspx

The Mission of the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development is to contribute leadership and resources to increase the skills, knowledge and career opportunities of Oregonians.

<http://www.oregon.gov/CCWD/> 503-947-2401
