

Youth Council
 Workforce Investment Board of Will County
 Workforce Center of Will County
 2400 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet, IL
April 10, 2019
Minutes

Council Members					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Nancy Baldwin		X	Monica Lowe	X	
Gloria Dollinger	X		Marieta Pergi	X	
Susan Flessner	X		Keri Peter	X	
Taryn Griffin	X		Michele Smith		X
Mike Hennessy		X	Michele Stipe	X	
Neal Kauffman		X	Ben Stortz		X
Elizabeth Kaufman		X			
Staff and Guests					
Mary Gajcak	Caroline Portlock				

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Stipe called the meeting to order. Susan Flessner has agreed to serve as co-chair of the Council.

The minutes of the January 9, 2019 meeting were approved on a motion by Flessner, seconded by Lowe.

Connect to Your Future Program:

Pergi reported that the High School Equivalency/Academic Skills Improvement Program is currently serving 101 students, with 33 in follow-up services this quarter (54 to date). Since July 1st, 18 people have transferred to Occupational Skills Training.

The transition to TABE 11-12 has been moving along well. Testing for TABE 11-12 has expanded to 3 hours, and the testing site is now Joliet Junior College.

Peter reported that JJC has seen 24 students complete the TABE tests since January 1st.

Peter shared that the focus on communication with young people has shown a transition from Facebook and e-mail to texting and Instagram. Use of 'Remind' texting app has brought Work Readiness attendance from an average 12-15/month to 82 in attendance. Students prefer communications that include pictures, graphics, and very few words.

Youth Provider Events/Activities:

Gajcak shared information about Cherish House, a shelter from Reclaim 13, that houses rescued victims of human trafficking. A recent Reclaim 13 seminar was extremely insightful, and brought helpful information to those in attendance. The Council agreed that the topic of human trafficking should be repeated in the near future.

Next Meeting: The next quarterly meeting of the Youth Council will be July 10, 2019, at the Workforce Center of Will County, 2400 Glenwood, Joliet, at 7:30 am.