

The "Roundtable" Roundup



www.pasfaa.org/wpacsr

Membership Information:

This is the updated contact information for Roundtable Participants:



College Success
contact list 9-13-16.p

Attendance:

There were 24 folks in attendance at the September 13, 2016, Roundtable meeting at Robert Morris University. Amy Cribbs, AIU3; Stacy Dempsey, Holy Family Academy; Donna Dexter, Citizens Hospital School of Nursing; Linda Ebel, Citizens School of Nursing; Jacqui Fraas, RMU; Chalis Henderson, Univ. of Pittsburgh; Rebecca Kurtz, SummerBridge; Aviva Lubowsky, Hebrew Free Loan Association; Rachel Mauer, Junior Achievement; Patti McCarthy, Indiana University of PA; Kim McCurdy, PHEAA; Grace Oxley, Homewood Children's Village; Shari Payne, Waynesburg College; Patty Peterson, PNC Bank; Dean Richards, Urban League; Sean Riffle, Pittsburgh JobCorps; Antonietta Riley, City High School; Mike Rose, CCAC South; Michael Schleidlin, Pittsburgh JobCorps; Peggy Schmeidecke, La Roche College; Debra Seidenstricker, PSU Beaver; Debra Smallwood, Neighborhood Learning Alliance; Heather Stevens, Youthworks; Michael White, Slippery Rock University of PA.

Old Business:

Legislative items: We are still watching some legislation in Harrisburg; however, there has been no movement and we don't anticipate any new developments on bills until after the new year.

Service Project 2015-16: Debra Smallwood updated the group regarding the resources that were distributed to students from Brashear HS and UPrep. Debra said she was able to distribute items to 10 students. She still has a few students who haven't gotten back to her and has a few items left. What we don't distribute this year, Debra will keep and distribute to students next year. She also showed videos of a few of the students expressing their gratitude to Debra and the support of our group in helping them get their dorm rooms put together and for the school supplies.

New Business:

Hebrew Free Loan Association: Aviva Lubowsky, Director of Client and Community Relations, spoke about the opportunity of interest-free loans available to Allegheny Co. residents. This is something students can use for tuition costs (up to \$10,000), or anyone can use for expenses such as emergency travel, to pay off credit card debt, and a host of other items. Aviva passed out a brochure. If you have any questions or would like more information or brochures sent to your office, please contact Aviva at alubowsky@hflapgh.org or via phone at 412-422-8868. Their website is www.hflapgh.org.



Hebrew Free Loan
Association loan info |

Committees: Committee groups had been established at the Roundtable Retreat held in July and sign-up sheets were passed around for anyone interested in adding their name to the committees. Committee groups will meet via phone or in person and the chair of the committee will report back to us at the next Roundtable meeting in November. Current committees include: Technology, Transition, Grants, Adult Learner, CSF 2017, and Financial Literacy. If you haven't signed up, you can contact the committee chairs, or let me know, and I can put you in touch with them.

Technology	Kim McCurdy; kmccurdy@pheaa.org or Dan Wray, dwray@pheaa.org
Transition	Antonietta Riley; riley@cityhigh.org
Grants	*still looking for a chair
Adult Learner	Linda Ebel; linda.ebel@ahn.org
CSF 2017	Kim McCurdy; kmccurdy@pheaa.org
Financial Literacy	**Kim McCurdy; kmccurdy@pheaa.org

*I will contact the folks who signed up for this committee and you can determine how you'd like to move forward. **We will be working with Representative Dom Costa's office and are looking at partnering with The Missing Semester or Junior Achievement.

Service Project 2016-17: If you have any ideas regarding a service project for this year, please let Debra Smallwood know – debra.smallwood0163@gmail.com. We are considering doing the same type of service project, but there could be specific donations we target or look at a partnership with a school. More to come at the next meeting. We will probably begin our collection process in January at the CSF as we have in the past.

Financial Literacy Rally: To gain traction around HB328 – Mandatory Financial Literacy in High Schools, we are looking to hold a rally in April 2017. We will partner with Rep. Dom Costa and are working to establish how to best partner with others who could provide student testimonials to show how needed this legislation is in the work we do. Amy Cribbs is looking to see what efforts are being done with The Missing Semester (Gene Natali) and we will have more to come on this as we proceed throughout the year.

PACAC Update: Loren could not be at the meeting, but she asked me to share the upcoming webinar information with you. It will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016, from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The topic is Prior-Prior Year is Here! The event is free to everyone, regardless of PACAC membership. You can register online at http://www.pacac.org/index.php?option=com_m&view=mc&mcid=72&eventId=496518&orgId=pacac. If you have any questions, you can contact Suzanne Rossi at pacaonlineworkshop@gmail.com.

PHEAA Update: Registrations are still being accepted for the upcoming Counselor Workshops. Secondary schools and community organizations can register at <http://www.pheaa.org/partner-access/training/workshops.shtml>. Also, Early FAFSA starts on October 1. Public FAFSA sessions being held throughout the state can be found on our website at <http://www.pheaa.org/college-planning/fafsa/help-events.shtml>. PHEAA has a lot of printed resources to assist your students such as FSA ID bookmarks and FAFSA Tipsheets. If you would like any publications, you can contact your Access Partner or let me know and I can get them to you.

PASFAA Update: PASFAA is supporting new federal legislation known as “The Simple Act” which is proposed to simplify the Income Driven Repayment Plans available to students. The summary document is attached. Also, the PASFAA Conference is being held in Hershey October 24 -26. Registration is currently available at pasfaa.org.



(2) FINAL SIMPLE
Act one-pager.doc

Junior Achievement Update: JA is having their annual JA Inspire Career Fair on December 1, at the Monroeville Convention Center. They are looking for vendors to participate. There are opportunities to speak to 5th graders, but also high school juniors and seniors. Vending is free to non-profit organizations and \$250 for for-profit organizations. If you're interested in learning more about the event, please contact Rachel Mauer at JA, rmauer@jwesternpa.org



JA info.pdf

www.BigBurgh.com – This is a website that provides resources for students and families for a host of things including eyeglasses, meals, shower facilities, healthcare information, etc.

Homeless Children's Ed Fund – Offers \$1500 scholarships to homeless students within the city of Pittsburgh. Their website is:
<http://homelessfund.org/resources/>

PNC Bank – Scholarship opportunity. This is their random drawing, held twice per year in December and June. Students can apply at <https://pnc.financialliteracy101.org/scholarship/>. They sign up for the financial literacy information and they are registered. Patty from PNC said that there are several students in

Western PA who have benefitted from these scholarships. Here is the flyer as well.



Scholarship 8.5 x
11.pdf

The Pennsylvania Society Scholarship, in partnership with The McGuire Foundation, is accepting applications until Nov. 1, 2016. The criteria can be found at <http://maguirefoundation.org/maguire-scholars/pa-society-scholarship/>.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is offering a scholarship to students. The application opens on September 30. More information can be found at <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarship-programs/college-scholarship/how-to-apply/>.



LinkedIn: Our Linked In page is up and running. If you're interested in joining the group, please look up WPA College Success Roundtable, or let me know and I can invite you. We sent out an invitation this past summer, but you may not have looked at it or you may use a different email address than what we have for the group.



Future Meetings:

-**Tuesday, November 8, 2016**, 10 a.m. – noon;
AIU3, 475 East Waterfront Drive, Homestead,
PA 15120

-**Tuesday, January 10, 2017**, 10 a.m. – noon;
Tentative Location Sewickley Academy.

-**Tuesday, January 31, 2017** – College Success
Forum, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Location to be
confirmed soon

-**Tuesday, March 7, 2017**; 10 a.m. – noon;
Tentative Location LaRoche College

-**Tuesday, May 16, 2017**; 10 a.m. – noon; Penn
State Greater Allegheny

*Please note the CSF date and the March
meeting date has changed since the original
calendar was presented in July.

**Thanks again to Robert Morris
University for hosting our
meeting and for providing
refreshments. We appreciate
your willingness to provide us
with meeting space whenever
we need it!**