



Iowa Sector Connect – Transportation & Logistics Group Call Notes

Dial-In Number: 1-866-685-1580, Conference Code: 5152813866

Thursday, January 10th 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Purpose: Opportunity for Transportation & Logistics sector partnership teams from across the state to network and share updates about their programs, offer recommendations/best practices, and ask questions of one another so that each program continues to grow and thrive.

Attendance: Ashley Grimm (KCC), Sara Goedken (NICC), Susan Lammers (EICC), Lacy Lawrence (IDOT), Sue Gibbons (IDOE), Joe Collins (IDOE).

Team/Program Updates

Kirkwood – Currently running their Class A and Class B licensure programs, but also looking at adding a “defensive driving” safety training option. There has been some demand from local employers for this type of safety training and development. May also begin offering a test preparation course for the CDL permit since it seems to be too challenging for some students to accomplish.

The last ICR Transportation Sector Board meeting included a few guest speakers to cover different topics of interest, such as Stephanie Bredman to discuss the Future Ready Iowa initiative and legislative initiatives. One area of focus is going to be on the licensing requirements for CDL’s. Stephanie appealed to each of the members to reach out to their local representatives to express the importance of community colleges and the need to continue funding their valuable workforce preparation and education initiatives.

Working as part of a larger regional effort to explore career pathways options for HSED (High school completion) and English as a Second Language (ESL) students. Goal is to have over 300 students attend a lunch and learn after some career exploration and educational training. They will meet with local employers to learn more about the different career options and industries available within the region. Participating employers may be willing to continue working with students on their education and career development while also working and adding value to their bottom line.

Excited to host their 2nd annual Rolling Rally event on Saturday, June 22nd from 10 AM – 1 PM at Kirkwood’s Continuing Education & Training Center. Last year’s event was a huge success! Going to likely revisit some of those activities, but also add some new touches. One new feature is to develop a video that follows the lifecycle of items as they are packaged, handled, shipped, and delivered, noting careers at the various touch points along the way. Many people don’t understand all of these various careers and may be interested in pursuing one of them.

Eastern Iowa – Susan Lammers is working on rebooting their transportation and logistics sector board. The group began meeting in 2014, but has struggled with employer engagement over the years. Hoping to gather some insight and strategies from these calls to add some energy back to the group. She currently works in as a Supply Chain and Logistics Instructor and Department Coordinator for Eastern Iowa Community College.

As part of a “Growth to Success” campaign, the team is working to improve curriculum, add scholarships, and update their transportation and logistics program, including the recent purchase of a driving simulator

with a Women and Minorities in Transportation grant. Looking at ways to better collaborate between the three campuses for EICC: Clinton, Scott, and Muscatine and to ensure smaller employers are involved and engaged in partnership activities.

Northeast Iowa – Starting a 6-week program in partnership with Hawkeye Community College on the Peosta campus on March 25th and the Cresco campus in June. Working with the Department of Transportation to approve the new testing range before kicking things off.

Iowa DOT – Lacy Lawrence joined for the call as a new program support analyst for the IDOT. Representatives from their organization plan to continue to join to learn more about how to better support our initiatives around the state. They are also going to potentially join as part of our Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics (TDL) career pathways project in June/July 2019.

General/State/Misc Updates

Career Pathways Projects: The IDOE is in the preliminary stages of planning a project to focus on the Architecture, Construction, & Engineering (ACE) fields to encompass a “building trades” career pathways project to promote the careers involved in the entire building process, from design/development all the way to sales and maintenance. This will look very similar to the recent projects in [Advanced Manufacturing](#) and [Health Sciences](#). The goal is to have a few industry/trade partners identified in January and a preliminary announcement and survey for the project in February. In-person employer focus groups will then be scheduled around the state for the month of April, with a goal of having a finished project released in the June/July timeframe. A similar project is being planned for Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics (TDL) that will follow a similar schedule, but kick off as the ACE project ends in June/July. Joe hopes to involve this group throughout the project, so please send him any of your own materials, lessons learned, ideas, advice, etc...from your own similar local projects.

Work-Based Learning (WBL) Virtual Clearinghouse: One aspect of Future Ready Iowa initiative that relates closely with many of the goals of sector partnership teams is a new web site that will act as a clearinghouse for work-based learning opportunities across the state. Employers will be able to post projects online for students from across the state to apply for and begin working on to earn valuable work-skills and experience. A shell of the site will launch in April 2019 and the full-site by July 2019, and also act as a catalog of successful WBL learning models from around that state that can be replicated in other areas. The details are still being worked out, but will be housed within the Iowa Department of Ed. An [advisory board](#) has been convened to advise and support this work, with their first meeting being held on Friday, 10/05.

Insurance Requirements: Employers often struggle with hiring young drivers without much experience because they are unable to insure them. There is apparently an industry standard that a driver must have 2-years of experience before being able to be insured. Many companies will still hire young drivers, but they must shadow older drivers until able to be insured or by offering other “finishing” programs. Idea to possibly offer a shorter 6-month probation period or to consider education time as previous learning credit or something? Might be something we can continue to work towards as a group?

2019/2020 Call Schedule

*All calls are scheduled for 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM, unless otherwise noted

2019 – 01/10, 03/14, 05/09, 07/11, 09/12, 11/14

2020 – 01/09, 03/12, 05/14, 07/09, 09/10, 11/12