

**Advisory Council Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.
In Person Meeting**

Attendees

- Pam Andersen- Adult Education Technology Coordinator
- Carol Berube - Adult Education Medical Coordinator
- Madison Dennis - CDP Student with Adult Education
- Heather Fries - Administrative Assistant (Adult Education)
- Elizabeth Hernandez - New Opportunities, Inc.
- Cheryl Madden - Choate Rosemary Hall, Chief Communications Officer
- Anthony Mangiafico - Adult Education Director
- Nicole Morrison - VR Supervisor Dept. of Rehab. Services
- Lori Ouellette - Adult Education Program Facilitator
- Julie Rio - Wallingford Public Library Assistant Director
- Adrianna Rodriguez - SCOW Executive Director
- Jo Rossomando - Adult Education GED/ABE Facilitator
- Maria Soto - Bilingual Interpreter and Data Clerk - (Adult Education)
- David Ullman - Wallingford Public Schools CTE Curriculum Coordinator
- Michael Votto - Wallingford Board of Education

Introductions

- Anthony welcomed everyone to our second Advisory of the year.
- Went around the room everyone introduced themselves and who they represent.

Wallingford Adult Ed Updates:

- Semester 1 and Semester 2 review - At this time we have 1 GED Graduate and 3 NEDP graduates
- 2 New Citizens from our Citizenship program
- 3 New Staff members to welcome:
- Karen Brown - She came in as a substitute for Gil Coppola. Gil unfortunately resigned, we are fortunate enough to have Karen who may be a permanent staff member in the next month. Karen has adjusted very well and is doing a wonderful job with the students.
- Maria Soto - She is a part time bilingual interpreter and data entry clerk. Maria is subbing for Sandra Rodriguez, who is out on maternity leave. Maria Soto explained her story of how she moved here from Mexico in 2010 with her 4 children to live with her husband who has lived in the US for 13 years at that point in time. Maria did not know any English and learned from our ESL classes, SCOW's and Holy Trinity's help. Maria became a citizen in 2019 with the help of

our citizenship class. She is so blessed to have come from a student to a staff member. Maria was so very thankful for all of Adrianna's assistance at SCOW along with Holy Trinity.

- Myra Scott is our new adult education school counselor. She has a wealth of knowledge from working at the state level as well as New Britain High School.
- Sandra Rodriguez delivered her baby boy on 1/6/2023.
- Pam talked about CPR training for 3 staff members, Pam Andersen, Heather Fries and David Fries. All 3 have CPR/AED certification.
- Pam discussed the CT Digital Equity Summit. CT is projected to receive \$100 million to many in need of broadband.
- Lori discussed Youth and Social Services Providing Networking fair that she attended with Sandra. WPS support staff attended, they learned about other providers and agencies and they were able to share information with the school counselors.
- Election Day PD - Staff had Google Calendar and student achievement gains training. Tony Ferraiolo. His training was phenomenal! "Tony has dedicated himself to both promoting competent and respectful health care for the transgender community, by educating providers, and advocating on behalf of patients. Also, training educators on providing a safe and respectful space for transgender children in a school environment. He encompasses a unique ability to make light of a sometimes-challenging situation which puts his audience at ease to fully participate in his training and leaves his audience with a greater awareness of how to move forward in supporting their patients, staff, co-workers, students, and children."
- Anthony spoke about Thanksgiving, the tree that was made by staff members, each leaf had every student's name on it. Adult Ed had their very first Thanksgiving gathering since before Covid. The students were elated and had a wonderful time. For Christmas time, there was a holiday brunch buffet and bingo for the students. 95 prizes were donated by staff members. A raffle was held for gift cards as well for students.
- Lori went over enrollment. As of today 1/10/23 there are a total of 158 students enrolled. ESL program we have a total of 35 different countries where these students are from.
- Semester 2 has begun, and hours have been extended for ESL, GED and ABE.
- Registration is still open.
- CDP in person classes begin 1/17/2023.
- Friday classes begin 1/20/2023.
- Pam Andersen will be the program's career navigator, in addition to her other roles. Pam will assist instructors with teaching their students workforce readiness skills. The Northstar program will be used to assist students with digital literacy for work, life and more.
- The Medical Program will be introducing a new program in the Fall of 2023. Dental Assistant Program, many are very excited to see this program coming in.
- Medical graduation is February 7th at Sheehan High School.

SCOW:

- Adrianna Rodriguez, Executive Director at Spanish Community of Wallingford, discussed what is new and going on at SCOW.
- Nucor Steel CT chose SCOW to be a beneficiary of their 2022 Charity Golf Tournament. SCOW received \$50,000 from this year's event.
- Adrianna says that this will continue to allow them to provide services for incoming families, continue their signature programs and services.
- Vaccine Clinic runs every Wednesday 1-6 pm

Mike Votto - Board of Education

- Likes what he sees in the brochure, would like to see more classes designated for special needs.
- Board is still looking for a new home for Adult Ed. Still waiting to see if the town received the grant.

New Opportunities

- Elizabeth handed out flyers for us to give to students and hang them on bulletin boards. Information on Workforce outreach programs, programs college students would be eligible for. Level up program. Rehabilitation employment services, SNAP outreach, CT food share mobile pantry with the dates and location.

Next Advisory Dates:

- Tuesday, May 9, 2023 - 12 - 1:30