

DESE
MASWM Meeting Report
April 6-8, 2009
By
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This report is provided to the MASWM Board and General Membership of the Association on relevant issues and activities of the Extended Employment Sheltered Workshop section of the Missouri Department of Education. The key topics and activities are as follows:

Legal:

As of this writing, there have been no court orders issued by the Cole County Circuit Court as to the substantive portion of the matter. Should the order direct the Department to pay at the legislated rate, there may be a 4-6 week shortfall in FY-08 payments. Should the latter happen, there is no opportunity for DESE to request Supplemental Funding since the timeline to do so has already come and gone. The Department intends to follow the orders of the Court whenever they are issued.

FY-09:

At the current rate of expenditure (\$75/30-hr workweek, M-F and \$15/6-hr. day, Sat & Sun), we project a \$671, 873 appropriation surplus by June 30, 2009. Two factors that could alter the final outcome are weather and the rates of layoff of existing employees.

FY-10:

Currently, the House budget proposal includes the entire amount recommended by the Department; in addition, the FTE that would fill in the TFS for the western part of the state has been returned, but approximately \$2,800 has been reduced that was hoped to provide travel and office support costs. On the Senate Budget proposal the recommended amount of \$3.5 million has been removed. In all likelihood, it will go to the Conference Committee for final resolution.

US Department of Labor:

By now all Workshops should have their Prevailing Wage Surveys completed. Any survey conclusion resulting in a higher prevailing wage in your area, would require that a calculation reflecting the higher standard be calculated for every employee being paid the commensurate rate (less than the federal Minimum Wage) and that the difference be paid to each employee retroactive to January 1, 2009.

Since the federal Minimum Wage will increase again in July, you will have the pleasure of going through the same exercise in August 2009.

Missouri Secretary of State:

According to a news release from the Missouri Secretary of State, all corporations that have filed for and operated under a "Fictitious Name" prior to August 28, 2004, MUST renew their corporate certificate prior to August 28, 2009. Attached is a copy of the news release and links to the Secretary of State's office and forms.

Training:

New Manager Training will be provided by DESE staff and MASWM representatives on May 20, 2009 in Jefferson City at the DESE offices in the Jefferson Office Building located at 205 Jefferson Street Jefferson City, Missouri 65101. Training will start promptly at 9:00 AM and end promptly at 3:00 PM.

Regional Safety Training provided by the SWIM, DESE and MASWM will begin in June 2009. There are five regional meeting planned; the tentative locations and dates are as follows:

Marshfield	June 23-24, 2009	Poplar Bluff	July 21-22, 2009
KC Area???	August 18-19, 2009	St. Charles	September 1-2, 2009
Columbia	September 22-23, 2009		

Registrations notices, agendas and course content materials will be sent out three weeks before each session is scheduled to begin; Forklift Train-The-Trainer certification will be provided only on one day. Certificates will be presented to all participants.

Web Application Training will be provided at the annual meeting by DESE staff. The purpose of the training is to provide instruction and direction of how to improve the accuracy and timeliness of the process so that Workshops can be reimbursed properly.

Transition Program Training will be provided at the annual meeting by DESE staff. The purpose of this training is to review new changes and requirements for the School-to-Community transition programs beginning with the 2010 school year. Emphasis will be placed on the respective responsibilities of both the School Districts and the cooperating Workshops.

Other:

A presentation was made at MACDDS on March 25th primarily related to budget projections for FY-09 and FY-10. Other general topics were discussed as well (Medicaid Waiver was not brought up).

An update will be provided as to the results of the Organizational Change Conference.

A summary report will be presented regarding the results of the Competitive Employment Referral Survey...interesting results.

A summary will be presented regarding the results of the Workshop Benefits Survey.

Points for discussion: Lobbying efforts to repeal DOL Section 14c and the impact this may have on the Missouri Workshop system and an update on Medicaid Waiver research.