



California Association of
Regional Occupational
Centers and Programs

Board Highlights

NOVEMBER 2002

Actions

Legislative Priorities for 2002-2003

The following legislative priorities were recommended to, and approved by, the CAROCP Board:

1. Growth & COLA as required by statute
2. CalWORKS
3. Revenue limit and ADA equalization
4. Under 16 years of age served by ROCPs tied to career pathways.
5. Role of ROCPs with low-performing schools and career technical preparation
6. Develop strategies to:
 - a) Work with newly-elected SPI and data and accountability.
 - b) Work with Pat Johnson's office on workforce investment data/accountability system.
 - c) Work with newly elected State Superintendent of Instruction on the *No Child Left Behind Act* and flexibility needed to recruit and retain

knowledge to teach ROP classes.

- d) Work on maintaining the visibility of ROCPs

and

the services they have provided to CalWORKS clients in the past and future, if funding could be restored, and study how and where the bulk of CalWORKS funding has been spent.

what ROPS around the state might want to consider offering in their upcoming semesters.

Ken Jones, Superintendent of North Orange County ROP helped set up a meeting to discuss the WASC process as it pertains to ROCPs. The current format and process of *Focus on Learning* (FOL), and the fiscal and time impact and the training that ROCPs have to go through to complete FOL, was discussed. Sometimes the process is held by trainers that do not know ROCPs or adult education. It was noted that ROCPs do not want a process that would be considered "lesser than" and want to be held to quality criteria. Don Haught, WASC Executive Director, is open to a proposal from us suggesting things that would improve the process for ROCPs, but would keep the integrity of the process.

The Department of Finance Audit Guide limits one ADA per day to be generated, however the details refer to the statute that exempts ROCPs from this guideline.

Rick met Ron Pina from CALCP to discuss alliance possibilities with our associations. Topics discussed included the coordination of both association's calendars and possible CALCP involvement with our March Legislative Forum. This is not a merger of the two groups but a creation of a one-voice alliance for both association's common interests.

A West Ed Focus group tried to survey all career and technical education instructors throughout the state. The results were significant. The survey asked instructors what their equipment and facility needs were and if they thought they were adequately funded. However, this survey did not include input from the Administrators who are making these decisions. Since then, several focus groups have been conducted around the state with the Administrators' perspective in mind. At Los Alamitos, on October 22, 2002, approximately six Administrators from the Southern California area gave their input as far as equipment and facilities needs. This additional information will be combined with the instructors' survey.

To keep CAROCP updated as to the *No Child Left Behind Act*, it was recommended that an Ad Hoc Committee or a point person be appointed. Rick will work with the State Legislative Committee to find out options.

Final reports for the one-time \$10 million equipment grants are due into CDE. Thanks go out to CDE for making the reports an easy follow-up process.

It was agreed that a CAROCP fax tree is no longer valid for mass distribution of information...the age of e-mail has taken its place.

President's Report

President Rick Bogart thanked Jan Bray, ACTE Executive Director, for the information she shared with CAROCP concerning federal legislation efforts needed to safeguard the Perkins Act. He thanked all who gave testimony in Santa Clarita at the College of the Canyons on behalf of Perkins re-authorization. A "What's Hot and What's Not So Hot" survey was done through Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP for the program and course offerings for the fall 2002. Other ROPS could use this as an indicator as to

CDE Update (ROCP Unit)

Al Tweltridge

One third of ROCP's have not returned their follow up reports for the \$10 million one-time equipment grants. Al has sent e-mails to those who need to respond.

A handout with current CDE Unit Staff Assignments for ROCPs was distributed. This information is also on their website.

Al encouraged everyone to visit the CDE website which has undergone changes.

The CDE Operations Handbook is being updated.

CDE contracted with West Ed to do the equipment study.

The results are forthcoming in early 2003.

Other bills of interest:

- *AB1818-Technical cleanup bill.* Prevents school boards from getting a separate stipend just because they have a ROCP (Single District or County operated) along with the regular stipend for being a school board.
- *AB2785 – CalWORKs.* ROP and Adult Education shared money - targeted Adult Education and reduced its 2000-2001 appropriations by \$40 million. Potential impact on ROP.
- *AB885-Distance learning bill.*

Dennis Guido

Dennis discussed the California Distinguished High School application. All high schools have been notified by CDE. A high school can also apply for special honors in career technical education, which is a benefit to the high school and to ROCPs. Applications are due in December 2002, read in January 2003, with the ceremony in May 2003.

Ed King

Ed reported that Carol Barkley, who was very instrumental in developing the Leadership Development Institute, is leaving CDE to work with the Charter Schools Office. Thanks go to Carol for all her hard work with CDE and ROCPs.

COMMITTEE & SPECIAL REPORTS

Legislative - Finance (Federal)

...Laurel Adler, Chair

Jan Bray, Executive Director of ACTE, discussed federal legislation. ACTE has issued an alert concerning the serious threat to the Perkins Act that is being considered in the Administration. The Perkins Act provides the largest federal investment into high schools and provides critical program funds to community and technical colleges. The proposal would eliminate funding for the Perkins Act and use the budget allocation to offset a shortfall that exists in the Pell Grant program. The proposal will be part of the President's budget submission to Congress early next year. Decisions on this proposal will be made by the beginning of December and action is needed now to stop it. In the last reauthorization of the job training block grant debates, the Administration is considering transferring all functions of the Office of Vocational and Adult Education to the Department of Labor. This means that any career and technical education related activities would be administered out of the Department of Labor, most likely as a part of the Workforce Investment Act. The importance was emphasized of immediately calling, faxing, or emailing the White House, congressional leaders, and your members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate with your concerns. An elimination of Perkins funding would cripple high schools and community colleges, exacerbating the damage that is already being done due to shortages of state and local resources because of the economic condition.

Legislative - Finance (State)

...Co-Chairs Randi Scott & Charles Brown

The forecast for state budget is that there will be a \$6 billion shortfall in the 2002 budget, and a \$15 billion shortfall in 2003, totaling a \$21 billion dollar deficit.

Jack O'Connell is the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction and will take office in January, 2003. The Senate has 8 new members and the Assembly has 32 new members.

Legislative Advocate Report

....Peter Birdsall & Laura Wasco

A written report of the CAROCP Legislative Priorities (which were identified at the CAROCP Leadership Meeting in September) was distributed. Comments and recommendations from the Legislative Committee and Board were included in the report. A report of the 2002-2003 Mid-Year Budget Reductions was also distributed. The announcement from Governor Davis of his mid-year spending reduction proposals will impact both the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 fiscal years. The administration is proposing state reductions and

adjustments totaling \$10.2 billion over an 18-month period. Included in the report are excerpts from the Mid-Year Spending Reduction Proposal that outlines the number of potential reductions to K-12 education programs.

Strategic Alliance

... **Tim Vanoli, Chair**

The next meeting of the Strategic Alliance Committee will be on Thursday December 5, 2002 in Sacramento. The committee will be scheduling visits with the new Superintendent of Instruction Jack O'Connell, Department of Finance, and Community Colleges Adana Mack from the Secretary of Education's Office. The messages taken to these meetings will be from the results of the Legislative and other committee meetings held today in Palm Springs.

Strategic Plan

... **Judy Piscitello, Chair**

Judy distributed the CAROC Strategic Plan Committee Chair Report. She recognized all those who are participating in reaching the 2002-2003 objectives. The reports give the details of all committee's objectives and accomplishments thus far.

Curriculum & Instruction

...Co-Chairs **Barbara Dawson & Nancy Masich**

Items 1 & 3 of the Strategic Plan (related to statewide certification of course outlines) are completed. A draft of the process for statewide certification was discussed by CDE and the committee. A final version will be posted to the CDE and the CAROC websites. Significant progress is being made on the two strategic plan items relating to academic standards.

Professional Development

...Co-chairs **Patricia Frank & Judy Piscitello**

Twenty-seven new participants of the Leadership Development Institute began training on November 19, 2002. Participants represent ROCs, county offices of education, school to career, and the California Department of Education. A roster of participants was distributed to the CAROC Board. This year's participants may earn continuing education units through Sacramento State University.

Financial Report

... **Michael Worley, Chair**

Current year membership income-to-date is \$68,909 and expenditures-to-date is \$14,620 as of October 31, 2002. The balance of combined assets for checking and money market accounts is \$179,808.

Membership

...Co-Chairs **Kit Alvarez & Dan Tack**

Kit reported that the total membership is up 364 and paying membership is up 287 from last year at this time. She reminded ROCs to forward their Board of Directors'/Trustees' names with their institutional membership. They are now included with your institutional membership, but Superintendents and Directors need an individual membership. Kit distributed each ROP Chapter's membership packet. Each membership packet contains:

- 1 membership report by Chapter.
- Membership rosters for each ROP within the Chapter.
- Membership report 2002-2003 scoreboard.
- Payroll deduction spreadsheet for each ROP within the Chapter implementing a payroll deduction plan.

A new ROP is needed to house and manage the CAROC membership database for 2003-2004 and beyond. Letters have been sent to all retired members listed in the database to see if they want to continue on our roster. Email contact has been attempted with the membership point person from each ROP in order to update the contact list for the web page.

Research & Data Development

...Co-Chairs **Larry Weigel & Elizabeth Nash**

The committee met today and yesterday to review the strategic plan goals and objectives. Proposed revisions to the CDE course review process were reviewed and discussed.

A task force work session was held in October to develop proposed revisions. In collaboration with CDE, a revised copy was distributed to the field through Regional Coordinators for further input. The committee reviewed and discussed the forms & process and additional clarification and input given.

Two additional opportunities for input will be provided tomorrow in two breakout sessions. Larry Weigel encouraged anyone interested in the process and providing input to attend any of these sessions. CDE hopes to finalize the revisions and have it in place as soon as possible.

The RADD committee also began a discussion of what data should be collected, the purpose of the data and how the data would be used and with what stakeholders. The committee felt it was important to prioritize the top five stakeholders, ask them what data was important to them, and have referred this task to the Strategic Alliance Committee for addressing. The committee discussed formalizing a Research and Data Consortium and recommended that a draft MOU be developed and reviewed at the January meeting. The ROP Research Project group is moving forward with 27 ROCs participating.

Trends & Economic Forecasting

.... Co-chairs Gerry Kawamura & Kim Thomason

Three editions of Market Watch have blitzed the state, helping ROCPs stay ahead of the curve and be market smart. Information is presented in a brief, global format and it is posted on the CAROCP website. It has already been shared with ROCP staff, district administrators, principals, board members, community college administrators, and local service clubs. Look for the next edition Friday, Dec. 13!

Business Officials Committee

...John Smith, Chair

A discussion took place regarding the replacement of Lucinda Borden as the Business Officials Representative. Lucinda has resigned. Daryl Poppen, Director of Business Services with the Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa ROP, volunteered to take the position. John will forward Daryl's name to the Legislative Committee Chair. John asked everyone to start thinking about the two leadership positions that will be available starting July 1, 2003 on the Business Officials Committee.

Energy grants were discussed. Shirley Lawson passed out sample applications and supporting documents. The grants had a due date of June 30, 2002 for ROCP eligibility. There was some discussion as to whether the grants had been released.

Al Tweltridge reported that if the applications weren't submitted with the ROCP Board Resolution by the due date, it was too late to submit. Al suggested ROCP talk with their County offices to check where the funds are.

CalWORKS funding for 2002-2003 was discussed. The group shared information on the level of service they are providing without support service funding this year. The majority of the group shared that they expected to be about the same or a little higher in their CalWORKS ADA for this year. The group discussed proposed budget cuts to 2002-2003 CalWORKS funding and the impact it would have on their level of service to these recipients.

There was some discussion on the ROCP reserve – 15% carryover. Al Fint and Shirley Lawson worked on a committee last year that was developed to give input on Ed Code 52321. There was a question about the 15% being current year or prior year. The committee said it was prior year. Legislation isn't clear between joint powers and County-operated ROPs. Al Tweltridge commented that the Education Code is clear when it comes to JPAs and single district ROCPs; however, the language is unclear as it related to County Offices of Education – it is a County issue currently. Al said he would follow-up on the energy grants when he returned to Sacramento. Al shared that the state has to cut current year funding, no ideas as to what the priorities for the cuts might be.

** Ad Hoc Committee Reports **

Visibility

The Visibility Committee met and agreed that creating a separate web page for parents to see the benefits of students taking ROCPs classes is needed, focusing on the "Success Starts Here." The committee will be creating a Power Point presentation draft on ROCP benefits. Marc will be emailing Chapter Presidents and Visibility Committee members to help gather pictures and stories for this presentation.

Funding

Paul Watters reported that the committee met today and looked at the goals and objectives. Additional representation from ROCPs is needed.

Website Committee

Karen Nelson, committee lead, thanked all who met for the website committee. Written recommendations have been submitted to Rick Bogart. It was recommended that no restrictions be placed on website access regardless of CAROCP membership. In addition, an optional registration area could be added to the website, which would gather information as to what stakeholder is accessing the website, with the benefit that they could sign up for email notifications that would be of importance to their ROCPs.

WIA/CalWORKS

The committee would like to survey the ROCPs and adult schools regarding the cut in CalWORKs funding and the elimination of the Support Services dollars. Based on survey results, the committee hopes to be able to make a "philosophical" statement. The committee feels the \$23 million dollar cut should NOT be accepted without comment from the ROCPs. However, the committee is also cognizant of the fact that funding will not be forthcoming. The committee would like the policy makers to know what the impact will be, in not only services provided clients, but also the lack of client follow-up information the ROCPs and adult schools will be able to provide Social Services. It should be noted that Perkins funding WILL NOT support the needs of CalWORKs clients.

The suggestions for the survey are:

- Use the CalWORKs coordinators for data input.
- Use J18, J19 amount of CalWORKs ADA claimed 2001-2002. Compare these numbers to the CalWORKs ADA submitted on this year's application.



A-G Course Approval Report - Two workshops are being planned: 1) Designing courses to meet U.C. A-G requirements. 2) Submitting ROP courses directly to U.C. for approval. Both workshops are necessary to assist ROP Directors/Superintendents for U.C. certification. Please submit all A-G ROP courses, (name and A-G designation) to Roman Stearns at U.C. Administration Offices.

Master Plan Update - Dalene Morris handed out an update on the California Master Plan for Education status and next steps. E-mail messages were sent out from Senator Dede Alpert outlining the outreach/grassroots effort to build support for the Master Plan and inform the public. Templates of the Master Plan will be forthcoming. On December 3, 2002, a press conference will be held to announce the introduction of implementing legislation for the Master Plan for Education. Rick Bogart asked Dalene Morris to be the liaison for updating CAROCP on information for the Master Plan.

State Directory Status - Part of the State Directory has been completed at Capistrano Laguna Beach ROP and is now at San Bernardino County ROP with Mark Lyons where it will be completed this week. It will be sent to Becky Schooler to be posted on the CAROCP website.

CAROCP Website - Becky Schooler reported that approximately 1000 hits are taking place on the CAROCP website. She requested that everyone look at their committee information on the website and contact her for any updated information.

Fall Conference-Final Details - Kim McGinnis reported that 394 individuals are registered for the CALCP/CAROCP State 2002 Fall Conference beginning tomorrow. Rick Bogart thanked Kim for the enthusiasm and work that she and her committee have provided to put together the conference.

2003 Fall Conference-Sacramento Grand Sheraton - CALCP will host next year's CALCP/CAROCP Fall 2003 Conference on November 19-21.

For more information on any of the above, contact:

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

- Central:** Nancy Masich, Fresno ROP
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- Northern:** Nona Olsen, Mendocino County ROP
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Next CAROCP Board Meeting:
January 17, 2003
Baldy View ROP
Claremont, CA

CAROCP "Highlights" are prepared by Wanda Engleman, Executive Assistant to Superintendent Dalene Morris, CRY-ROP. They are published after each State CAROCP Board Meeting to provide updates & information on the action issues and projects discussed at CAROCP State Board Meetings. Suggestions and feedback can be forwarded to Dalene Morris, CRY-ROP, 1214 Indiana Court, Redlands, CA 92374, Telephone # (909) 793-3115, Fax # (909) 793-6901, or E-Mail: dalene_morris@cryrop.k12.ca.us

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