

Best in Class WFD Practices - Voting Results West Michigan Regional Skills Alliance - 02/23/2009

Description Of Action or Initiative	Score	Rank	Percentage Of Category	Vote-based Priority
Foundational skills & soft Skills together with coaching process	23	1	13.1%	A
Need a regional forecasting and planning system to match supply & demand	22	2	12.5%	A
Focus on high growth middle-skill jobs (more than high school, less than bachelor's degree)	20	3	11.4%	A
Use the National Career Readiness Certificate as an alignment tool to coordinate essential skill building.	13	4	7.4%	B
Engaged and committed employer involvement in designing and implementing sectoral workforce partnerships and in adopting effective employer practices.	12	5	6.8%	B
Measure results.	12	6	6.8%	B
Invest in education and weave workforce strategies with economic development strategies and the needs of employers.	10	7	5.7%	C
Develop measures and structures that constantly improve as a result of learning.	9	8	5.1%	C
Focus on essential foundational skills for the 90 million Americans that lack sufficient skills to succeed in occupational training and post-secondary education.	8	9	4.5%	C
Strong and committed local leadership from the funding community investing in workforce development, local business, government, and workforce development institutions.	7	10	4.0%	C
Fund completions not enrollments in post-secondary.	6	11	3.4%	C
Work closely with WFD groups like Chambers and The Right Place to make sure our people are part of the solution because of their skills	6	12	3.4%	C
Career pathways. Strategies to promote career advancement for low-skilled workers through partnerships that connect workforce pipelines.	5	13	2.8%	C
Articulation agreements.	5	14	2.8%	C
Create alignment between agencies to support learners and to track their education and outcomes over time, across services, and into the labor market.	4	15	2.3%	C
Build effective "bridge programs".	4	16	2.3%	C
Create a regional skills agenda. Align adult education with preparing students for post-secondary education and careers.	3	17	1.7%	C
Organizations learn how to do a BIC job of mentoring.	3	18	1.7%	C
Recognize and communicate the value of foundational skills.	1	19	0.6%	C
Focus on a dual customer approach that meets the needs of both workers and employers.	1	20	0.6%	C
Use third parties, workforce intermediaries, to bring together parties to meet the needs of low-skill, low-wage workers, increase business productivity, and improve regional competitiveness.	1	21	0.6%	C
Is truly comprehensive, high quality and relevant.	1	22	0.6%	C
Potential to influence state and regional workforce policy, leading to better outcomes at lower costs. Addresses national priorities.	0	23	0.0%	C
Totals	176		100%	

Regional Ranking of National Best Practices

