



The Mountain Region NC-DCDT Meeting was held at the Western Regional Education Service Alliance (WRESA) in Enka on Friday, December 5th. There was a surprisingly small turn-out as compared to previous years (21 attendees) perhaps due to a number of systems being on a two-hour delay due to weather conditions.

After a brief welcome by Robin Miller (Mountain Region Coordinator) Sharon Jackson (NC-DCDT Membership Chair) provided information related to DCDT membership, the Spring Conference, the Lighthouse Award and the DCDT grant. An activity encouraged participants to come up with “ideas” that could be expanded and submitted for funding through the grant process. This activity generated many ideas and was very beneficial in helping attendees recognize the ease in which a grant can be generated. Sharon Jackson will send the ideas out to participants by email.

Dr. Sharon, Richter, Assistant Professor at ASU did a wonderful presentation on the NC Exit Summary of Performance. She provided handouts that included a PowerPoint presentation, handouts and sample forms. Dr. Richter reviewed the IDEA mandate, SOP benefits/challenges and best practices.

Local employability Seminar updates were provided and information was shared regarding the Regional Employability Seminar. The Regional Employability Seminar will be held on March 19th at Haywood Community College in Waynesville. The top two schools from each region that will be competing on March 19th are:

Mid-West:	West Lincoln High School and Kings Mountain High School
Western:	Reynolds High School and TC Roberson High School
South-West:	Hendersonville High School and East Henderson High School
Far-West:	Robinsville High School and Hayesville High School

Sharon Jackson reviewed the new “*Resume and Interview*” component. This new addition to the Employability seminar was very well-received in the Mid-West. Kathy Norris shared two new additions to the local Far-West competition. Students had to complete an application (correctly) and then names were drawn for a Wal-Mart gift card. Also school teams earned points for asking appropriate questions during the business panel segment. Robin Miller noted that the western region is going well but that other parts of the state need to be encouraged to participate so that statewide competitions can be held. Sharon talked about strategies to get a competition set up in each region of the state. Also discussed was the need for a dress code and student IDs. The Employability Seminar logo was shared. The regional contacts are:

- Sharon Jackson (Mid-West)
- Robin Miller (Western)
- Diane White (South-West)
- Kathy Norris (Far-West)

The last item on the agenda was regional sharing/networking. Questions in the areas of paid competitive employment, EXTEND2, OCS curriculum revision, SBEs and transition planning were posed and answered along with general discussion on transition related topics. Also suggested topics for the spring conference including “Transition Planning for High-Incidence Populations,” “Job Development During A Recession,” and “Post-Secondary Education.” The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.