Tuesday, September 25, 2018
10 am – 12 noon

Commonwealth Corporation | 2 Oliver Street, 5th floor
Boston, MA 02109

Agenda

10:00 a.m. Welcome

10:10 a.m. Action Items

• Approval of Minutes from prior Commission meetings

10:15 a.m. Discussion of Draft Commission Report
AGENDA FOR TODAY

• Minutes
• Review draft report narrative
• Review draft recommendations
• Revisit further themes from July/August meetings
• Next steps
OUR COMMONWEALTH

• Massachusetts’ record of achievement in education

• The ‘dual imperative’:
  • Rethink the market of learners
  • Rethink the range of programs serving them

• Establish a system of lifelong learning
OUR CHALLENGE

• Changing technology and future of work

• Changing demographics/increased diversity

• Changing (shrinking) customer base in higher education
OUR OPPORTUNITY

• Expand online and innovative postsecondary models
  • Competency-based education

• Embrace new conception of market of learners, “New Traditional” student
EDUCATION AND WORK

• Call to embrace the work-oriented goals of postsecondary education and training

• Call to recognize employers’ needs and renew focus on narrowing skills gaps
FINDINGS REGARDING LEARNERS

• Large market of learners:
  • No college and some college, no degree
  • Entry-level employees
  • Opportunity youth

• Lack of flexible, affordable, employer-aligned opportunities

• Lack of student supports

• Lack of options for diverse learners
FINDINGS REGARDING EMPLOYERS

• Strategic focus on health care, manufacturing and IT

• Address credentialism

• Help employers understand the value of credentials

• Support deeper relationships between employers and education and training institutions
FINDINGS REGARDING EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEMS

• Incentives needed to foster new programs

• Online and hybrid approaches needed

• More credential-based approaches needed

• More competency-based programs needed
RECOMMENDATIONS

• Establish a lifelong learning coordinating entity

• Establish a Massachusetts Virtual Academy

• Adopt a core digital instructional model – competency-based, prior learning assessment, learner support/coaching, soft skill development, experiential learning
THEMES TO ADDRESS FURTHER

• Lifelong Learning system development

• Program alignment (role of existing programs)

• Policy changes: institutional, state, and federal
NEXT STEPS

• By October 8: Circulate revised draft

• Week of October 8: Feedback from Commission
  • Conference call

• By October 15: Final draft

• October 30: Full Commission meeting