

## Commission for Children and Youth Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 21, 2011

Commission Room, Town Hall

Attending: Jennifer Skor, Lynn Phillips, Ellen Weyrauch, Doreen O'Leary, Dawn Egan, Dan Doak, Carl Filsinger, Emily Weyrauch, Jenna Klaassen, Jill Kleban

Staff: Kristin Ferrara, Charlene Monn

Guests: Stacy Kamisar, Linda Brown, Jane Braverman

- 5:19PM the meeting was called to order
- The minutes from October were approved on a motion by Lynn and seconded by Ellen
- Guests to commission were introduced
- Charlene's Report
  - With the 5 days that school was closed, she reviewed the necessary changes made to the schedules of WOW programs
    - They will be extended to the last week before Christmas as needed to make up missed classes.
  - Winter WOW
    - Registration will be on-line again
    - Registration will start before winter break to allow for more time and make things less rushed as programs start almost immediately after break.
  - Jane Jessup, instructor for summer arts camp and beloved, retired music teacher will do a K-2 winter program
    - 20-25 kids
    - As we do each session those Wait-listed people from Fall will have the opportunity to register first for programs they did not get into for the Fall session.
  - Engineering with Legos not returning
    - will be back in spring
    - the people who teach it do not want to "dilute" programs
- Kristin's Report
  - Dan Doak spoke about: Revised Bullying policy to align it with new state law
    - Go along with definitions
      - Focuses more on protecting target as opposed to just punishing the bully
    - School issue if it disrupts school environment
      - In the high school there is a Leadership circle (captains' circle)
        - Circle is comprised of team captains, Company Board and class officers
        - Meet monthly for programming
      - Coaches have to fill out reports, but bullying is invisible at WHS and difficult to define

- Bullying at younger schools is much more transparent, kids report most of the cases
  - “Names can Hurt”—don’t just sit by and watch
    - “upstander” approach to bullying
    - Stacy will look into a program that she is aware about bullying and see if they might be able to come this year. (run by ?)
    - **PBIS** in all schools: **P**ositive **B**ehavioral **I**nterventions and **S**upports
    - Will also train other school staffs
    - In sports programs? Teaching the same lessons on sports fields?
    - 1<sup>st</sup> tier: expectations on behavior and incentives to reinforce positive behavior
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> tier: specific interventions and a positive plan
    - talked about *potentially* getting police involved in interventions, but this issue is for the Board of Ed
- Fall parenting programs completed
  - More interest with the grades 3-12 parents
- Ginsburg talked about sportsmanship and youth sports—very well attended
- Yoga program started in WHS
  - Lots of publicity, not too many people
  - Goes until December, then again after the holidays
- Wellness week: chair massages, Chartwells, alcohol goggles
  - Before midterms
- Internet Safety Panel
  - For adults and High School students
  - Currently having logistical planning problems
  - Matt Brodacki, Barbara Greenberg, Meghan Skelton are all expected to take part
  - Probably best to try and schedule in February after mid-terms
- Teaching High Schoolers how to Interview
  - Sarah Hacala or other leader?
  - 4-week? Discussion over length of and type of program
  - interactive program
- Budget
  - We should use all of grant money
  - Reviewed facts of budget
  - Family Assistance program is 3 free visits
  - Waived fees—1 free program per student per WOW session
  - \$4,000 of grant money left in budget
  - give money to Relay for Life
    - to support the event, not American Cancer Society
    - sponsor part of evening—performer? Water bottles?

- Teen Peaceworks
  - Domestic violence taskforce, supporting the group and their work
- Meeting Schedule
  - January 23<sup>rd</sup> (next meeting)
  - February 27<sup>th</sup>
  - March 19<sup>th</sup>
  - April 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - May 21<sup>st</sup>
    - Planning meeting for next year
- 6:36 On a movement made by Lynn and seconded by Dawn the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Emily Weyrauch