

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Alternative Learning Sub-Committee Minutes
February 22, 2010
BOE Conference Room
7:00 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

Jeanne Doerr
Kathy Deprey
Beth Duffy
Martha Rouleau
Pat Howley
Michelle McCard
Pam Lazaroski

Committee Members Absent:

Karen Sullivan
Elaine Schiavone

Committee Guests:

Alan Beitman
Michael Landry
Peter Bogan
Linda Carabis

1. Linda & Pam handed out a chart produced 4-5 years ago in response to BOE goal concerning wellness, outlining existing programs & services for at-risk students.
2. Discussion of chart, how information can be more effectively communicated to parents and community, what needs to be added to list:
 - Often parents of at-risk students are not as involved as necessary in their children's education
 - We have many services available, but we need more
 - SAM team at Har-Bur has become extremely effective at drawing in reluctant families
 - Student handbook - should we pull out contact info and provide it to parents in a different form so that they know who to call when problems arise?
 - What about parents who won't take advantage of help available?
 - Parent group at school - middle school PTA, parent advocate/volunteer group could help - regular interaction with each other helps ease parental concerns
 - Parents are concerned w/too much visibility at school in MS & HS - problem for their kids?
 - Point of contact for each team at middle school? Regular contact w/parents to develop relationship?
 - Mentor program for parents of special education students
 - Gatekeeper questionnaire - short series of questions on website to direct user to proper individual for assistance
3. Parent Focus Group - would be extremely helpful to focus our efforts with services & communication. Potential questions for focus group:
 - What form of information would be most helpful?
 - What timeframe works best for informational meetings?

- Would a handout listing existing resources be useful? Why? Why not?
- What else would be helpful - especially as students transition from elementary to middle school, middle school to high school.
- What is parent responsibility? What is student responsibility? What is school responsibility?
- How useful is Parent Portal? What would make it more useful (i.e. tracking nurse's office visits, etc.)?

4. Additions to list/chart from #1 above:

- Middle School Parent/Principal forum
- Middle School transition meetings - Gr. 4 to 5, Gr. 5 to 6, etc.
- Middle School - new PTA in the works
- "Circle of Parents" through Special Services (Wheeler Clinic program)
- High School - Link Crew
- Parent Portal tutorial

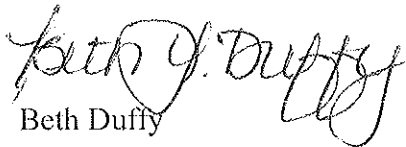
5. To-Do's for next meeting:

- Explanations for Resource List - more detail - Pam, Linda, Martha
- Parent Focus Group - start planning at next meeting
- Format for Resource List - Beth
- Gatekeeper Questionnaire - Michael, Beth, Jeanne
- Look at other town's/school districts' websites to find out what works - Jeanne

6. Next meeting scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2010, BOE Conference Room, 7:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Beth Duffy