



Minutes Committee for Youth, Families and Community August 18, 2008

Minutes of the Committee for Youth, Families and Community held on August 18, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Tempe Public Library Tempe Connections Program Room, 3500 S. Rural Road 2nd Floor, Tempe, Arizona.

MEMBERS Present:

Lynette Stonefeld, Tempe/Kyrene Communities In Schools
Ginae Klasek, Peer Solutions
Trish Miller, Community Bridges
Sandra McNally, EMPACT—SPC
Veronica Castillo, Chicanos Por La Causa
Rebecca Bond, Tempe Connections
Samantha Heinrich, Kyrene School District
Joe Spracale, Tempe Impact Education Foundation
Barb Fries, Tempe Elementary School District

MEMBERS Absent:

Randy Lazar, Tempe Union High School District
Grace Ku, Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department
Vic Cordts, Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley

City Staff Present:

Kathy Berzins, Community Services – Social Services
Tim Cox, Community Services - Social Services
Kim Bauman, Community Services – Social Services
Nancy Rodriguez, Tempe Municipal Court

Guests Present:

Rindy Corn, Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department
Lisa Merrin, Tempe Union High School District (for Randy Lazar)
Elena Hernandez, Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department
Kay Cosner, Tempe Union High School District

Meeting convened at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Kathy Berzins called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes from June 16, 2008 Meeting

The minutes from June 16, 2008 were reviewed.

MOTION: Nancy Rodriguez motioned to approve the minutes.

SECOND: Joe Spracale seconded the motion.

COMMITTEE CONSENSUS: Minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 3 – Tempe Union High School District Parent Community Services

Kay Cosner, Parent Community Services Manager, Tempe Union High School District provided an overview of the district's parent community services. There are three programs offered and they were sustained from Marcos de Niza High School's 21st Century Learning Grant. All services are offered at no cost to participants.

- 1) The **Marcos de Niza High School Homework Lab** is offered Monday through Thursday from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. ninety-nine days during the school year. The program is staffed by four certified teachers, serves an average of 34 students per day, and provides the following:
 - Extra homework assistance
 - A place to complete projects on a computer
 - A place to study for tests.
- 2) Students are required to sign in and out of the program and are held accountable for attendance. If students are at the program one hour they receive a snack and a city bus pass. Last year the program served 486 individual students many who attended regularly.
- 3) The **Summer Bridge Program** is an intervention program offered at Marcos de Niza, McClintock and Tempe High Schools to prevent high school drop-out. The program targets students who need extra assistance in reading, writing, and math and provides a transition between middle school and high school by:
 - Exposing students to high school activities and clubs
 - Providing familiarity with the high school campus
 - Providing parent workshops, conference and orientations.
- 4) The three high schools work very closely with the feeder middle schools to identify students for the program. The program is offered for 4 weeks during the summer Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Each class is held for 85 minutes. Student can only miss two days of class to remain in the program.
- 5) Students who pass the reading, writing and math program objectives receive a .5 elective credit. The program keeps the students in a cohort group and meets with them quarterly through their senior year to provide support and stability.
- 6) An average of 36 students per site complete the program although twice as many start the program. Many drop out of the program due to summer vacations and other conflicts. Discussion occurred among committee members on how to more effectively recruit, refer, and retain students.
- 7) **No Parent Left Behind University** provides parents, grandparents, and/or guardians with the opportunity to network, share experiences, lend support and learn useful parenting strategies and information in a non-judgmental environment. There are two program components: Linking Parents and Teens Workshops and The Parent Connection Workshops:
 - Linking Parents and Teens Workshops are offered to parents, pre-teens and teens, usually together, on a variety of topics throughout the year. NPLB University partnered with the City on 4 workshops through their Magellan Prevention Grant last year and is looking forward to partnering again this year. Last school year 31 workshops were offered and 384 adults and 350 students attended these workshops.

- The Parent Connection Workshops are designed for parents of incoming freshmen. Each schools Summer Bridge Program had parents take a survey and the 4 top topics choices at each school will be offered at each school during the school year. Last year 63 adults and 45 students attended these workshops.
- 8) Discussion occurred among committee members on ways to more broadly notify our community about the No Parent Left Behind Workshops.

Agenda Item 4– Communities For Kids Update

- 1) **Lynette Stonefeld, Communities in Schools** reported Estella Blanc has been hired as the Communities for Kids Coordinator. She will be working with three elementary schools to coordinate the “Don’t Wait to Educate” parenting series.

Agenda Item 5 – Grant and Program Updates

- 1) **Lynette Stonefeld, Communities in School and Kim Bauman, City of Tempe** provided an update on the City’s Magellan Prevention Grant..
- Lynette announced that there have been some significant changes with the City’s Magellan Prevention Grant. The City of Tempe was awarded a Magellan Prevention Grant but was informed by Magellan that they were not approved to provide the ALL STARS Program which was included in the grant application. Moreover, all school-based, curricula based programs, except Chicano’s Por La Causa’s “Too Good For Drugs” Program were not approved by Magellan for any of the providers funded under the new Magellan grant. Thanks to State Representative Ed Ableser there was a meeting with Magellan and the Department of Health Services and the CEO of Magellan recommended that awardees grants be funded for the services they proposed. The City is now approved to provide the ALL STARS Program.
 - Kim announced that the City of Tempe will be providing the ALL STARS Program at the four TD#3 elementary schools and at Kyrene Middle School. Prior to being approved to provide ALL STARS, Magellan had suggested the City provide a peer leadership program to support efforts to reduce underage drinking. Since the City had already begun developing this peer leadership program it will also continue to develop and provide this program in addition to ALL STARS. A group of high school youth have begun meeting on Saturdays at the Westside Center. Chicano’s Por La Causa’s “Too Good For Drugs” program will be provided at Thew and Laird Schools.
 - Lynette announced that the Magellan Prevention grant is also funding a strategic prevention framework planning process in our community. Through this process there is funding to collect and review community data and to seek input from the community on what prevention services and programs they would like in Tempe. Tempe Community Council is heading up this process. The steering committee has just begun meeting and consists of five community members. In November the larger community process will begin. Invitations will be sent to all of this committee’s members and they are encouraged to participate on the larger coalition that will be formed.
- 2) **Ginae Klasek, Peer Solutions** announced that while their agency did not receive funding in the first Magellan Prevention funding round they are still going to provide the STAND & SERVE Program at the four TD#3 middle schools, as well as the high schools, through other grant funds. However, they now only have two staff to provide their services. Peer Solutions is applying for another Magellan Prevention grant.

Agenda Item 6 – Announcements

- 1) **Trish Miller, Community Bridges** distributed their new brochure which includes a directory of services. She announced that through some SACA funds they will provide services at the school in Tempe which was formerly known as Tempe Pappas.
- 2) **Lisa Merrin, Tempe Union High School District** announced that the failure of TUHSD's bond election to pass has caused a number of cutbacks at the district and is impacting student services. The override election will be these November and they are looking for everyone's support at this election.
- 3) **Veronica Castillo, Chicanos Por La Causa** announced that the 13th Annual Leadership Retreat for Latinas in grades 8th through 12th will be provided in November. The retreat is free. Application must be submitted by October 3rd. Veronica distributed applications to committee members who may know of young women who are interested in attending.
- 4) **Kathy Berzins, City of Tempe** suggested that due to the low attendance at June's meeting that perhaps we should eliminate this meeting next year. The committee will vote on this at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

- Presentation by Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department
- Presentation by CPS outreach liaison Mellissa Zeller
- Please contact Tim Cox for future program presentations.
- Please contact Kim Bauman for future agenda items.

The committee's next meeting will be on **September 15, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Prepared by: Kim Bauman

Kathy Berzins, Chair