

Minutes
Wayne County Parent Action Coalition
Meeting March 6, 2008
University of Michigan Dearborn
6-8pm

Coalition members present: GSC-W parents

Cherie Ross-Barber and Teresa Marvin facilitated the completion of the Vision training we began January 22, 2008.

Cherie/Teresa reviewed the vision and mission of GSC-W. Cherie asked all to think about other parents they represent.

Star Power is May 21, 2008 all day; not starting as early as last year; perhaps 10am-3pm. You don't have to attend the entire event.

Currently 36 collaboratives; will be in all counties by next year.

Collaborative members need to bring others into the Coalition.

Teresa reviewed the hand out of the main themes from the vision activity of visions part one. Generated action steps; ranked action steps; key fact sheets; fatherhood...be considerate of males; using parents as advocates.

Attract new members; build relationships within groups; if you need help, one of these groups might help you.

Who can help us accomplish our work?

Cherie: Wayne RESA has funding to print for parent coalitions; also partner with ECIC.

Teresa-we know our purpose but we need to have a ground swell.

Do we need to have a vision, mission, and purpose? Can we just have a purpose?

The consensus of the group was that a purpose was enough.

Teresa/Cherie suggested that perhaps a small group can collaborate over a purpose statement and present it for vote to the rest of the group.

We need a brochure, or card of some sort that can be left at offices/places and also be used when talking to others about GSC-W. Sheri offered her services to

develop this key facts piece, will talk, possibly meet, with Caryn later.

We need to have a common meeting time. Cherie took a survey. All of the coalition members voted for morning coalition meetings, 9:30-11:30am, promptly.

Caryn will try to re-schedule the 4/10 and 5/1 meetings/trainings for morning. Added a meeting for June 5.

Teresa conducted a survey prior to ending to ask each participate for thumb up, sideways, or down; asked for two words to describe the experience. Most responses were sideways. Some indicated feeling of chaos.

Teresa closed by sharing with the group that they are tough to facilitate; some have a tendency to forget manners; suggested we might use a talking stick, have a time keeper, and/or breakdown the agenda in minutes. She encouraged the groups' passion but said a facilitator would have to harness it.

Next meetings: April 10, May 1, June 5.

Minutes
WCPAC Meeting
January 22, 2008
University of MI Dearborn

This was Part One of the Vision training offered by ECIC. Cherie Ross-Barber and Teresa Marvin, facilitators.

Opened with an overview of the GSC-W and where the coalition fits.
Reiterated the individuality of the collaborative parents group and the coalition.

Parents and the Action Agenda. The coalition is the way to get things done; drive the movement to Lansing.

ECIC offers 15 different trainings for parent coalitions—free.; they include Leadership, Empowerment, and Who's who in the zoo? (who do you talk to to get things done); Legislative Advocacy.

The Parent Liaison is the collaborative parents' representative to the coalition.

People remember stories. Talk more in pictures than in words.

We won't have a product today. Today is "visioning day!" Visioning is a process. Why are you here? (group exercise)

Vision: Where you want to be.
Mission: How you get there.

What Early Childhood should look like in Wayne County.

Group voted to have separate WCPAC meetings monthly; will not add a WCPAC meeting to a collaborative or collaborative parents' meeting.....they need to be kept separate.

Coalition goals: how to motivate, what to do to motivate, media involvement.

Minutes

GSC-W Parents' Meeting

February 26, 2008

YWCA of Western Wayne

9:30-11am

Present: Michael Napper, Andrea Hawkins, Rosetta Howard, Ramana Roberson, Shafyla Thompson, Barbara Wilson.

Welcome/Introductions

Barbara updated the group on the tax question regarding the honorarium as other income vs. self-employment income. Final answer not yet in; Bovitz to clarify why the amount was put in that particular box on the 1099.

Caryn discussed the options available regarding the payment of the honorarium; receiving gift cards vs checks. The group agreed that they preferred to continue receiving checks, not gift cards.

GSC-W parents need to elect a representative and alternate representative to the Wayne County Parent Action Coalition. Term of two years; can not miss more than three WCPAC meetings in one year or a special election will be held to vote replacement(s). Discussed duties of parent representative and alternate: Attend all WCPAC meetings, listen, represent collaborative parents, convey WCPAC information to collaborative parents and vice versa.

The parent representative and alternate will continue to receive the honorarium for WCPAC participation. Other GSC-W parents are welcome to attend WCPAC meetings but will not receive an honorarium.

The full collaborative parents' group will continue to assist in the creation of the coalition until some time in May. It will be very clear when only the rep and alternate begin the duties of their positions.

Caryn will e-mail the information to all of the parents regarding the positions and the election and open the nominations process. The election will take place after the March 17 meeting of the full collaborative.

Updated parents on GSC-W Action Teams. Which are still in need of chairs, and members and when meetings should begin.

Updated group on Summit to roll out the Early Childhood Action Agenda.

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Announcements: Michael Napper informed about Detroit Parent Networks' Project Graduation for Detroit students in grades 7-12. Call 313-309-1450 for more information. Also, DPN will have a Parent Leadership Conference on 3/29/08.

No March parents' meeting due to Easter/Spring break.