

Minutes of Education Foundation Mentoring K-12 Strategic Alliance Meeting Held Tuesday, April 19, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. at St. James Episcopal Church

Present: Steve Hughbanks, Bill Howell, Christi Rudiger, Bill Hanna, Jeff Usher, Paulette Goines, Barry Carroll, Ed Hoeller, Judith Wencel, Norma Bricker, Jan Davis, Carrie Herman, Angela Lampe, Barb Fuller, Jeff Wenzel, Diane Kniep, Cynthia Martinez, Paul Rhodes, Frances Jackson, John Jenkins, Phil Journey, Elena Ingle, Larry Cheatham, Cathie Hay, Mary Lou Woods, Danielle Hollas, Sarah Kauffman, Tammey Shimon, Dawn DeArmond, Judy Frick, Jan Jopp, Keith Jopp, Lyndon Drew, Craig Elliott, Lori Gonzales, Walter Thiessen, Jo Hillen, Teresa Rupp, Terry Behrendt, Annette Singletary, Sarah Robinson, Vanessa Lohf, Deb Voth, Hyla Hart, Shelly Chenoweth, Chip DuFriend, Vicky Roper, Debi Corrigan, Leila Gallagher

- I. Welcome/Self Introductions.** Jan Davis, chair of the Education Foundation Team, opened the meeting by welcoming attendees. Participants introduced themselves and the organizations they represented.
- II. Visioneering Wichita Background.** Suzie Ahlstrand provided a brief overview of the Visioneering Wichita process. Henry Luke reviewed page 29, the development of the Visioneering Wichita document. Luke presented a current listing of Vision Partners and how Visioneering Wichita needs 700 Vision Partners before the end of the year to commit to carrying out the vision. Luke encouraged attendees to sign up as Vision Partners.
- III. Key Benchmark Review.** Luke reviewed the Key Benchmarks on page 12 reflecting job growth, per capita income, education (skills training, post-secondary, K-12 education systems), family stability, downtown development, arts and recreation, racial harmony, opportunity and diversity and leadership.
- IV. Education Foundation 2005 Strategic Alliance**
 - A. Education Foundation Vision.** Luke reviewed the Education Foundation Vision: *Before 2024 the Wichita MSA will.....Have a globally competitive educational system that encourages and supports life-long learning and contributes to the social, cultural and economic vitality of our diverse community.*
 - Mentoring K-12 Strategy.** Henry Luke asked attendees to review the mentoring strategy and offer their thoughts as to the important concepts outlined in the strategy (see comments at the end of these minutes.)

B. Setting the Mentoring K-12 Benchmark

By consensus the group tentatively adopted the following benchmark...

By 2010, 20,000 mentors will be recruited, trained and placed in MSA public and private school systems.

USD 259 per year: 3,000 net new mentors

Other USDs/private schools per year: 1,000 net new mentors

C. What are Specific Action Steps?

Discussion Points:

- Some volunteers are not trained; mentoring term used very broadly, (trained mentors 2,000 currently)
- How do we define a mentor?
- Mentor – 1 hour per week in school time;
- Is it academic or relational mentors?
- Two types of mentors - both lead to better academics;
- School based - defined amount of time (i.e. one hour per week).
- Community based - normally over a longer period of time; could include academic & relationship; primary focus is building a relationship; could lead to better academic relationship.
- Community based mentoring efforts need to communicate to schools about who they are tutoring. It needs to be both academic & relationship & coordinated with the schools.
- Group determined we need both types of tutors.

Action Steps:

1. Identify mentoring organizations
 - a. Big Brothers Big Sisters
 - b. Youth Friends
 - c. Communities In Schools
 - d. Others
2. Identify students to be served (school district)
3. Recruit & train mentors – centralized organization or coalition of organizations
 - a. Recruit in May
 - b. Background check by June
 - c. Train by July
 - d. Assign by end of September
4. Assign mentor to kid.
5. Follow-up with mentor to be sure everything ok
6. Screening coordination: BBBS, CIS, School district. Cost is \$300 to screen.
7. Need a central database to identify kids.

8. Need coordination between agencies to avoid duplication of efforts.

V. Questions/Adjournment

A. Who are additional potential invitees/partners? Who will contact?

Attendees were asked to provide additional names of individuals and/or organizations that should be invited to the next meeting.

B. Selection of Mentoring K-12 Chair

Jan Davis interim chair

C. Date and Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Jan will set date for next meeting.

Agenda item: identification of mentoring agencies.

Mentoring K-12 Comments:

- Last two sentences of the strategy are the most important, every student that needs one will have one;
- MSA will be a mentor-focused community with an active center for mentor programming and a positive marketing campaign.
- Our young people are an important asset, it will take work from schools and counselors;
- Must train business people about mentoring;
- Benefits of mentoring should be featured in newspaper and other media;