

Ad Hoc Secondary Education Committee
Wednesday, July 22, 2009
SeDoMoCha Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room
5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 5:00p.m. SES cafeteria

1. Introductions - present: Sue Mackey Andrews, Al Smith, Walt Emmons, Rick Johnston, Cindy Ranta, Vandy Hewett, Judy Leighton, Lynne Nelson, Jane Conroy, Joy Lacasce.

District Representatives: Lynne Nelson, Al Smith

Vandy was welcomed to the group and will represent Foxcroft Academy for the duration.

2. Purpose of Meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee was discussed in depth. We are advisory only to the School Board and are assigned with the task of understanding how secondary education in our District is going, identify strengths, needs and options for the Board to consider in November. Careful and direct discussion was held to ensure that members and those in the public didn't see this group as negative towards Foxcroft Academy or what is happening now. We are conscious and concerned about our dropping student census, high school dropout rate, and other economic indicators that tend to direct the needs of the student population in terms of not only education but social and family services as well.
3. Review of July 8, 2009 meeting and minutes. Sue Mackey Andrews was asked to chair the meetings and accepted.
4. New Business - ** Brainstorming of attendees for future meetings of what is offered and wanted at various highschools and educational centers in our local area.
5. No meeting as previously planned for Aug. 12th. Next meeting will be held Aug. 19th at SES . Guest presenter will be TCTC
6. Order of presenters to be determined. Ad Hoc Committee will meet each Wednesday continuing from Aug. 19 for a 2 hours planned discussion.
 - Presenter will have the floor initially for their presentation, estimated at 30-45 minutes with a question/answer/discussion session to follow.
 - Audience participation by written questions on index cards.
 - Discussion by ad hoc committee panel afterwards

Publicity is needed – letters, flyers, postings on web... Public welcome and needs to attend throughout the fact finding meetings. We need creative ways to engage and inform the public on an ongoing basis and not just at the end.

DRAFT Schedule of presentations:

19-Aug	TCTC – Dexter Tri-County planned for August 19, 2009
26-Aug	Local Law Enforcement
2-Sep	Foxcroft Academy
9-Sep	PHEC – Penquis Higher Learning Center
9-Sep	Adult Ed – PVAEC
16-Sep	School Districts #4 Guilford, #46 Dexter, #41 Milo
23-Sep	District Town Selectmen/Managers
30-Sep	Local Businesses
7-Oct	Charlotte White Center
14-Oct	Teachers – SA#68/FA Teachers Associations
	Parents/ esp. with Special Needs Children - survey
	Alumni - survey

Jane and Cindy will work on surveys for the target groups.

Full fact finding and recommendation report presentation planned for MSAD #68 Board at Nov’ 09 meeting.

Information needed:

Presenters will be asked, from their position, to discuss any/all of the following topics of what the school, company, association, etc. has to offer or comment on their needs, experiences:

Orientation to the School/Learning Program:

- Present and Future – what is your vision for education in our rural area?
- Program of Study – Offerings/Courses/Curriculum
- Standards and expectations
- Graduation requirements
- Program Calendar
- Athletics - Co-curricular – Clubs
- Data – student populations/class teacher/pupil ration
- Schedules
- Policies/Procedures
- New programs
- Chopping Block
- International programming – influence/benefits

Creative Alternatives for Diverse Options and Opportunities for our Students:

- Maximum Opportunities for Students – Vocational Studies – Alternate Studies
- Crossing schools for courses of studies
- Magnet School concept
- Career Education – job shadowing
- Aspirations/Guidance/Advisor/advisee
- Impact of Learning Results

- Earlier exposure to Vocation Education – e.g., middle school
- Special Ed Day Treatment
 - Special Needs student expectations
- Programs for the “average Joe” student

Challenges:

- Money/funding – financing
- School challenges as Presenter see them....budget, staffing, etc

Public Relations, Support and Involvement

- Community Relations – Staff/Faculty/Administration
- Community Partnerships/ The Whole Village

Meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. and initially will be at SeDoMoCha Elementary/Middle School complex (SES). We plan to discuss having meetings in other towns and need to follow-up on this discussion. These will be open to the public with notices posted, newspaper articles, etc. The sequence of fact finding presentations will be approved at the 9/19 meeting. The following schedule is a DRAFT.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15p.m.