

**Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2008**

The Youth Council Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Andreoni, Tera Armstrong, Jim Conness, Emlee Dooley, Pam Furlan, Jeanette Maurice, Dave McClure, Edna McManus

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Bernie Anderson, Carol Baness, Dick Hally, Jan Koch, Terry Madsen, Trina O'Brien, Margo Stouffer, Mary Stouffer

OTHERS PRESENT: Carol Betts, Darlene Passini

Introduction of New Member

Pam Furlan introduced Darlene Passini. Darlene replace take Katie Shevokas on the Youth Council pending approval by the Chief Elected Officials.

PY '08 Youth Programs Update

Darlene Passini presented the update which was included with the meeting materials. Darlene did note one correction; the Teacher's Aide for LINC is Dawn Powell. The name was incorrect on the report.

Jim Andreoni asked if the LINC students are progressing.

In reply, Darlene said that LINC started back up this month with 7students, two ISY for credit recovery and five OSY for GED. Silvia Hudzik said that most students are adjusting to the change of hours, and they are working with those who have concerns.

Additionally, Darlene distributed a report showing the Student Exit Results for the Bridge Program for the 2007—2008 school year.

Pam Furlan shared a success story about one of the Bridge students who had a somewhat troubled past and is now working full time.

After School Programs Update

Pam Furlan gave an update on the program. Northlawn School does not see a need to change what they are doing. Pam approached the Kiwanis about Northwest Elementary School. Pam and Dianna went to a Kiwanis meeting and did a presentation. The Kiwanis were very interested; the members said they would discuss how they could be involved and get back to us. We also approached a group in Amboy; it is more of a homework help program at the Teen Center. We talked about bringing in some businesses to help. Most of the groups are homework help groups, and we do not see any need to change them.

Darlene was approached by a guidance counselor from Bureau Valley School. They were looking for speakers to come into the classes. Pam said a speaker from logistics talked at the school; in November and December we have scheduled a manufacturing speaker and a healthcare speaker to talk with the students.

Update on Activities of Local Coalitions

Pam explained that she was contacted by Tom Ziel from Ottawa High School. He was interested in starting an after school pilot program. She was supposed to meet with Tom again now that school is back in session, but he was unavailable; so she met with Jay Stortz who is the Co-op Teacher. Jay is very interested in pursuing a pilot program with the logistics industry, but he would like to see us work with the co-op class long term. He talked about having companies come in and talk to his co-op class. He is interested in not just the logistics area, but any business with openings or future openings particularly for students that may not be college bound.

Jay talked about forming a committee to meet with them while simultaneously working on the pilot program. He would like to meet on a regular basis and collaborate on all kinds of projects. Pam said that Jay said the business would have the whole class period. He suggested maybe having someone come to the school every Friday. He thought it was too late to start the program this year, so he's looking to start something in the fall.

Everyone agreed this is a great opportunity. The committee discussed starting a trial program with the spring semester instead of waiting until fall. They felt this would be a way to work out all the flaws making changes along the way, so that they would have a model to follow by fall. The committee felt it would be helpful in recruiting businesses if they knew what kinds of questions the kids asked, and then the business could be ready with the information needed. It was also suggested that we may be able to video some of the business presentations to the students. We could then use the videos for workshops or other programs.

Other Business

Work in the Real World Evaluations

Pam explained that the evaluations included with the agenda were from IVCC. She said in talking with the employers after the program the employers would like to see making some changes to the program. Usually the participants are required to go to each area, such as health care, or manufacturing, but some of the kids have no interest in some of the areas. One of the employers suggested asking the kids in advance where their interests were. Then getting a group of employers together for each interest and having small groups, so they could just sit and talk. He felt this might be more valuable and more productive. Pam said she talked to some of the other employers, and they agreed this might be a better approach.

Sauk Valley Community College WITRW is scheduled for October 17th. We are going to take the students to the computer lab and take them through everything available on Illinois workNet.

Tera Armstrong asked if changing locations was an option. Maybe a location with more rooms would allow students to have smaller groups and be able to ask more questions.

Pam explained that the kids were given a whole list of questions to ask the employer, but if they choose not to ask questions there isn't anything we can do. Pam also explained that it is important to have the programs on campus, because it is the only opportunity some of the students have to see a community college. Also, the colleges are centrally located and everyone knows where they are.

There was discussion about including Work in the Real World with the Career Fair. It would expose the employers to the students and the students to the employers. It would let the students see what skills are needed to get the job that interests them. Some of the employers are looking to use this as a recruitment arena, so this would give them exposure to seniors that will be looking for work soon. It also might be a

good place to offer the Soft Skills Program since teachers are there with the students and employers would be there too.

College & Workplace Readiness

Pam said Terry Madsen sent the report that was enclosed with the meeting material. Terry just wanted to share the report with the group.

Dave McClure asked how many kids are involved in the youth programs.

Darlene said she doesn't have an exact number, but she will get the numbers together and send the information to everyone. She said there are some out of school youth that go to both IVCC and Sauk Valley Community College.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Dave McClure and seconded by Jim Conness to accept the August 12, 2008 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

With there being no further business, a motion was made by Dave McClure to adjourn, Edna McManus seconded the motion. Motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Carol Betts