



## **Parent Coalition Retreat**

### **Minutes**

**July 28, 2008**

**9am-1pm**

**Hoyt Library**

**Present:** Julie Kozan, Lula Haynes, Sarah Byam, Whitney Haron, Laura Hill, Sarina Brown, Celeste Buckley, Toinette Ingram, Maureen Cieszlak

*The parent coalition retreat was put together so all of the parents could bond and really get to know each other, to clean the slate and start from scratch. It was very effective and the parents learned so much about each other such as the different 'hats' we all wear and our different backgrounds. It was a great day and very effective meeting!*

### **1. True Color Workshop**

- A. Personality traits/working style workshop; more detailed handouts were given out
- B. Brief Description of True Color Personality:
  - Gold: defined expectations, order, staying on schedules, need closure, realistic time/budget constraints, established systems
  - Green: intellectual challenge, independent projects, variety, need time to think, own challenges, private work space, need to contribute ideas
  - Blue: need to help others, open communication, need to feel welcomed, no conflict, feel appreciated, creative, true to self
  - Orange: need quick results, fun, take risks, center of attention, resourceful, freedom to act now, high impact
- C. Parent Coalition Personality Colors
  - GOLD: J. Kozan, S. Brown, W. Haron, M. Cieszlak
  - GREEN: D. Smith, C. Buckley, T. Ingram
  - BLUE: L. Hill, L. Haynes, W. Haron, S. Byam
  - ORANGE: no parent is an orange

### **2. Team Building: Talking Together/Share Your Story**

- A. Everyone shared their personal story and how they ended up in the GSC
- B. It was a very bonding activity and there was a lot of trust between the parents

### **3. Parent Coalition "Restructuring"**

- A. J. Kozan gave updates on what type of changes could be coming to the PC in the 08-09 Fiscal Year
- B. The executive committee wanted to add another parent liaison position; PC didn't agree to this decision
- C. PC came up with new solution that J. Kozan said she would take back to Rich VanTol for discussion before the final job descriptions are written for the new fiscal year 2009.

## NEW "PC STRUCTURE PLAN" IDEAS

\*Parent Liaisons: S. Byam and L. Haynes will alternate months with who is in charge of minutes, agenda, and if the PC needs assistance.

\*Starting with August 2008: S. Byam will be "in charge"; September 2008 L. Haynes; W. Haron will type up a more detailed list to be distributed to the PC

\*Parent Leaders: PC wants to take on more responsibility for planning community events (we all like the feeling of accomplishment and success); all agreed about the level of commitment that will be needed

\*Parent leaders will pair up in two's and be responsible at least one community event a fiscal year, if other parents cannot do it than a parent can do more than one

\*Responsibilities include but are not limited to: organizing dates/times for event, delegating tasks to parents such as: who is working at the events and what shift, setup/breakdown, getting materials to the event, what items are going to be given out at the event, creating deadlines and sticking to them, reporting back to the parent liaison in charge for that month, keeping progress notes so the PC is updated

\*These changes were agreed to start immediately for a "trial basis"; starting with the August 8, 2008 Event (below)

### **4. Communications Meeting Update**

A. L. Hill and S. Byam have been working on business cards, magnets, totes, and bookmarks; all products are laid out; samples were passed around PC all agreed to go forward with ordering them

B. Dilemma was waiting on the ISD Tech Department to set up a parent coalition email address and phone number so it can be put on the products

C. As of August 5, 2008 the products were completed and sent to ordering!!

### **5. Update on August Action Events**

A. Friday Night Live: S. Brown and M. Cieszlak are point persons for this event

\*W. Haron will send out an email reminder of the information about Friday Night Live

\*August 8, 2008 from 5pm-9:30pm on Washington Ave. in downtown, behind Temple Theatre

\*Wear your Great Start t-shirt and comfy shoes

\*Anything that you want to be distributed needs to be at the Transition Center by Monday, August 4, so M. Cieszlak can pick it up, W. Haron will donate candy to pass out for kids

\*S. Brown called: booths must provide own tables, tents, and chairs

\*M. Cieszlak will haul everything over to the event; set up is first come first serve for spots

\*The working times for everyone that signed up will be split: set up, 5-7:15pm, 7:15-9pm

Maureen and Celeste are doing set up at 3:30pm

Maureen, Sarina, Lula, Dalia are working "AM shift" 5:30-7:15pm

Whitney, Sarah, Laura are working the "PM shift" 7:15-9:00pm

B. ABCs at Wal-Mart Event: S. Byam and L. Hill are point persons for this event

\*Date of August 24, 2008 from 2-5pm at the Bay Road Wal-Mart; do we need to be there earlier to set up?

\*M. Cieszlak has 87 toothbrushes and is getting more

\*S. Brown has leads on bushels of apples that we can purchase but is still checking on donations

\*When are we going to stuff 250 bags?? Need a date set.

\*Everyone should be ready to report progress at the August 18, 2008 Great Start Meeting

### **6. Planning For September Action Events**

A. September 30, 2008 Hemlock Sawdust Days from 9am-6pm: M. Cieszlak is point person for this and she will contact Pam Boyke to see if she wants to be a point person; more details to come at a future meeting

B. Meeting/Dinner for parents that signed up at DEAR event: W. Haron and S. Brown are point persons for this event; location must be in Freeland; more details to come at a future meeting

**7. Working Lunch/ Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Action Plan**

A. This agenda item was put on hold due to time constraints and the other agenda items that arose

**8. Open Forum**

A. We still need parent leaders for Swan Valley/Freeland, Chesaning/St Charles, Birch Run/Frankenmuth and parent volunteers for all districts

B. S. Brown and L. Hill are officially parent leaders in the PC; S. Brown represents Buena Vista, L. Hill represents Saginaw City

C. Parent Leader contact list and school district chart were updated and will be distributed soon

D. Does everyone have there individual needs assessment form returned to S. Byam? If not please get to her as soon as possible and if you have not received one see S. Byam or W. Haron for copy of the form.

*Next Meeting  
Great Start Collaborative Sub Committee  
At The Transition Center  
Monday, August 18, 2008  
9:00AM-10:30AM  
Parent Coalition Meeting to follow  
Ends at 12:30PM*