

**Albany Area Community Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 25, 2019 - Noon**  
**Albany Secondary School – District Office Board Room**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Attendees: Krista Dirkes- Parent, Allison Dudek- Stearns County/Parent, Ryan Gaebel- Parent, Brad Jensen- AACE, Kelly Neu- AACE, Cassie Novak- AACE, Lynn Pennie- School Board Member/Parent, Darcy Ruesink- Pondview Manager, Alisa Schmidt- AACE, Tressa Schmidt- CentraCare Clinic, Tom Schneider- City of Albany

**II. Programming Reports**

- a. Community Education/District Updates - Shared end of year activities and the district's process for creating an e-learning plan for the 2019-2020 school year for inclement weather days.
- b. Recreation Programming/BECC -
  - i. Shared BECC winter participation - averaged 322 participants per week. Have added Mon & Wed evening summer hours and will have a "rain" plan for the BECC this summer as well.
  - ii. We have been awarded an Archery Grant through the MN DNR, which gives us a \$1,800 matching grant for supplies and training for 2 instructors. We are currently looking for coaches for the season which will start in winter 2019.
- c. Enrichment Programming/BEAT
  - i. We are ending a great first BEAT Series season, with 118 season ticket holders. We are currently renewing season ticket holder seats for the 19-20 season and will open up season ticket sales to the general public on May 11. Single ticket show sales will open mid-August.
  - ii. NEW opportunities for spring/summer include Instant Pot 101, Small Engine Repair, American Sign Language for Beginners, and Virtual Reality Experience
  - iii. We have plans underway and are hoping to launch Middle School Robotics this fall.
- d. Early Childhood Programs - Online Preschool Registration went very well. 3's class numbers are down, but we will be sending a postcard to our 3's census to remind parents that preschool registration is open.
- e. Kids Company/Preschool Camp & Wrap-Around Care - Summer Registration is open. Will be bringing in Kona Ice as a new vendor on Thursdays once/month and will tie this into our Pawsitive Pride incentives in each building. Summer field trip planning is coming along. Kids Company will be closed August 26-30.
- f. Community/Other - The First Annual Lake Wobegon Community Expo had a great turn out and a lot of positive feedback. Next year's date is set for March 21, 2019.

**III. Other**

- a. New Programming Brainstorm - Christmas Cookie Class, Greenhouse Activity, Kids Baking Class, Parent Tech Safety Class.
- b. 2019-2020 Meeting Schedule- All meetings will be held on Thursdays at Noon in the District Office Board Room
  - i. October 10, 2019
  - ii. December 12, 2019
  - iii. February 27, 2020
  - iv. April 16, 2020
- c. Open Forum
  - i. City Update: City approved 14 new streetlights on the sidewalk from 238 down past the new clinic. Clinic is set to take patients on July 1st.

# 2019-21 Community Education Goals

## **Goal #1: Provide additional programming opportunities in the BEAT and continue to improve current BEAT Series.**

- Increase attendance at BEAT Series performances through increased marketing and public relations.
- Increase BEAT Series revenue through sponsorships, promotions or grant-writing.
- Research options for a BEAT Series scholarship program.
- Offer additional family-friendly events in the BEAT.
  - Ideas: family movie nights, holiday movies, children's events, senior citizen events
- Promote facility rental of the BEAT to outside organizations to increase revenue.

## **Goal #2: Increase programming opportunities for community Senior Citizens and older adults.**

- Survey all AAS residents 55+ regarding programming interests, wants and needs.
- Collaborate with other senior citizen programming agencies to enhance or expand programming.
  - Organizations: Senior Linkage Line, Whitney Senior Center, Catholic Charities
- Program a bi-monthly "Senior Tuesday" at Albany Area Schools.
  - Ideas: speakers (PD, District/City staff), special interest activities (coffee, cards), concert dress rehearsals.
  - Purpose: to keep senior citizens engaged and informed.
  - Date/Time: Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 (during Tri-Cap bus hours)
- Research requirements for streaming school performances to Mother of Mercy Campus of Care utilizing district ITV equipment.
- Research intergenerational programming opportunities with community businesses.

## **Goal #3: Continue to improve Kids Company program through collaboration, staff orientation and continuing education, and increased opportunities for students**

- Enhance training, orientation, and continuing education programs for staff.
- Expand current Junior Staff program to better engage our 3rd-5th graders and involve them in planning and program development.
- Evaluate current pricing structure and modify as needed.
  - Areas to evaluate/research: discounted rate on CE classes, vacation policy, inclement weather fees.
- Ensure Kids Company programs are partners in building Pawsitive Pride programs.

## **Goal #4: Continue to meet the needs of our ever-changing community and offer programming that is responsive to trends.**

- Focus Areas/Ideas:
  - Middle School Programming - Robotics, Theatre, Other
  - NASP Archery
  - Flag Football for 3rd & 4th Grade
  - Elementary Enrichment Activities
  - Partnership with County Parks, State Parks, DNR

*APPROVED FEBRUARY 28, 2019*