

**Albany Area Community Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**February 27, 2020 - Noon**  
**Albany Secondary School – District Office Board Room**

**A. Welcome and Introductions**

Attendees: Al Amdahl-Albany City Council/AAS Teacher & Coach, Renee Anderson-Mother of Mercy, Liz Berkes-Parent, Lynn Brutger-CMCU/Parent, Allison Dudek-Stearns County Public Health/Parent, Brad Jensen-Kids Company Coordinator, Cassie Novak-Community Ed Director, Alisa Schmidt-Community Ed Admin Assistant, Guest: Stephanie Hillman-ROCORI Community Ed Director

**B. Programming Reports**

- a. Community Education/District Updates -Strategic Planning survey is available for all to complete on the district website. A Community Strategic Planning Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 31 at 6:00 pm. Free dinner served at 5:00 pm and free child care will be provided. Spring/Summer brochure will be in homes the first week of April.
- b. Recreation Programming/BECC -
  - i. Averaging 400 BECC users per week. Wednesday Pickleball is having a good turnout. Community Basketball also continues to go well.
  - ii. NEW Recreation Programs: Huskie Ski Club and Dodgeball both have great numbers. Archery has started and has 18 participants. They have gone to 2 tournaments and performed well.
- c. Enrichment Programming/BEAT
  - i. 2020/21 BEAT Series will be announced at the Dairy Daughter's performance on March 28th.
  - ii. NEW Enrichment Programs: Battle of the Books and ACT Prep class. Middle School Robotics made it to the State Tournament and Team B won the Judge's Choice Award.
  - iii. Mother of Mercy will hold a fundraiser at the BEAT on March 21st. Join them for a Neil Diamond Tribute performed by Martin Zellar.
- d. Early Childhood Programs - Preschool Registration is Thursday, March 5th. New section this year is a 1 Day All Day option for 3-year-olds with before and after school child care available. This section is marketed towards families with two working parents who cannot do a mid-day pick up. ALL Preschool for the 20/21 school year will be at Avon Elementary.
- e. Kids Company/Preschool Camp & Wrap-Around Care - Working on Summer Field Trip schedule. Organizing a group of Dental Students to come from St. Cloud Tech to do dental related activities with the kids.
- f. Community/Other - The 2nd Annual Lake Wobegon Community Expo will be held on Saturday, March 21st. There will also be a Farm Safety Expo that morning which is open to the public. The High School Musical Beauty and the Beast will be performing April 24-26 with tickets on sale to the public March 15th.

**C. Other**

- a. New Programming/Potential Partnership Brainstorm: **Family Bike Night** in mid-May -- families can bike from Albany City Hall to Avon or Freeport and get an ice cream treat, **Horseback Riding** at El Rancho Manana, **Golf Event** for kids and/or families. Other ideas: Wilderness Survival Class, Ice Lanterns, Promote YES! Summer Program, and partnership with Avon Folk School. Working with M.O.M to get residents to the school for walking, possibly using the MOM van or Tri-Cap to transport.
- b. 2019-2020 Meeting Schedule- All meetings will be held on Thursdays at Noon in the District Office Board Room
  - i. April 16, 2020

# 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*