

Albany Area Community Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2021 - Noon

Albany Secondary School – Google Meet

A. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Al Amdahl-Albany City Council/AAS Teacher & Coach, Renee Anderson-Mother of Mercy, Liz Berckes-Parent, Krista Dirkes-Parent/AAS Staff, Ryan Gaebel-Parent, Scott Hansen, Parent/School Board Member, Brad Jensen-Kids Company Coordinator, Kelly Neu-Community Ed Coordinator, Cassie Novak-Community Ed Director, Lynn Pennie-Parent/School Board Member, Darcy Ruesink-Pondview Estates, Alisa Schmidt-Community Ed Admin Assistant

B. Programming Reports

- a. Community Education/District Updates - Our district has been able to move to a hybrid model for grades K-12. Our K-5 students are in the building 4 days a week with an At-Home Learning Day on Fridays. Our 6-12 students are in a Purple/Silver hybrid model, attending school 2 days a week, with At-Home Learning on their off days.
- b. Recreation Programming/BECC
 - i. Winter HITS started recently for grades 9-12. There are different groups for Purple and Silver hybrid cohorts.
 - ii. Currently programming: youth and advanced Karate, youth bowling, and piano lessons.
 - iii. Upcoming: archery for grades 6-12 starting on January 24, Saturday youth basketball, and researching models for BECC use
- c. Enrichment Programming/BEAT
 - i. Upcoming: Diamond Art Class and Parent & Me Cooking class
 - ii. We are also hopeful to offer an in-person Mature Driver's class again soon!
- d. Early Childhood Programs
 - i. We are starting to look forward to Preschool registration for the 2021-22 school year.
 - ii. Our Preschool students are back to a normal schedule as they were at the beginning of the school year (attending all scheduled days).
 - iii. Big shout out to our Preschool Staff as they have been working hard to comply with the covid policies while keeping preschool running as "normal" as possible
- e. Kids Company/Preschool Camp & Wrap-Around Care
 - i. Kids Company is back to offering before and after school care for grades K-5 and Wrap-Around Care for our Preschool students. We are also offering Emergency Care on our At-Home Learning Fridays.
- f. Community/Other
 - i. Santa Day was a HUGE success welcoming over 670 vehicles on opening night! We look forward to helping with next year's event.
 - ii. Other

C. Other

- a. New Programming/Potential Partnership Brainstorm:
 - i. Jewelry Making class - leather earring class coming soon!
 - ii. Internet safety class geared towards parents. Current [Knowledge Base](#) on our website - will include additional resources here.
- b. 2020-2021 Meeting Schedule - All meetings will be held on Thursdays at Noon. Meetings will be held via Google Meet until further notice.
 - i. March 11 (changed from March 18)
 - ii. May 13

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