

# Albany Area Community Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2021 - Noon

## Albany Secondary School – Google Meet

### A. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Al Amdahl-Albany City Council/AAS Teacher & Coach, 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 welcomed back all students into the building March 8th with Grades 10-12 wrapping up Distance Learning on March 5th. There will be monthly At-Home Learning Days for the remainder of the school year. Community Education classes are starting to ramp up as well. We are excited to be once again offering more opportunities to our community.
- b. Recreation Programming/BECC
  - i. Winter Swimming lessons are always popular and filled up fast.
  - ii. Current programming: Saturday Youth Basketball, Karate, Youth Bowling, BECC Public Use reservations for courts and walking track.
  - iii. Upcoming: Spring/Summer Camps and programs including T-ball, Coach Pitch, Softball, Basketball and Volleyball Camps. We will be hosting a JO Volleyball Tournament in the BECC and Main Gym in April as well.
- c. Enrichment Programming/BEAT
  - i. Upcoming: Diamond Art Class was a no go for a virtual session but we will be trying again for in-person.
  - ii. High School Musical practices have started and will perform Beauty and the Beast in the BEAT at the end of April.
- d. Early Childhood Programs
  - i. Preschool registration is all online this year, opening the evening of March 18.
  - ii. Our 0-5 ECFE class will begin a couple of weeks and is full. We also have a 2's & 3's class starting with full registration.
- e. Kids Company/Preschool Camp & Wrap-Around Care
  - i. Kids Company is still required to have pods of 15 or less and that is working well for the most part. DHS visit was completed virtually with no concerns from the licensor.
- f. Community/Other
  - i. TopTracer golf at the Albany Golf club will be opening to the public in a few weeks. The community seems excited to have another recreational activity that could bring additional traffic to our town.
  - ii. Other

### C. Other

- a. New Programming/Potential Partnership Brainstorm:
  - i. Jewelry Making class - leather earring class coming soon! School of Fish, Ukulele Class, Cooking & Sewing, Heartsaver
  - ii. Possible Partnership with the Avon Folk School for summer/school year activities.
- 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. 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 Pa