

Albany Area Community Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2022 - Noon
Albany Secondary School – District Office Conference Room

A. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Renee Anderson-Mother of Mercy Foundation, Lynn Brutger-Community Member/Parent, Krista Dirkes-Payroll and Benefits Manager/Parent, Ryan Gaebel-Community Member/Parent, Scott Hansen-School Board Member/Parent, Brad Jensen-Kids Company Coordinator, Julie Krumrei-Community Ed Admin Assistant, Sue Lemke-Community Member, Kelly Neu-Community Ed Coordinator, Cassie Novak-Community Ed Director, Lynn Pennie-School Board Member/Parent, Alisa Schmidt-Food Service Director/Parent.

B. Programming Reports

a. Community Education/District Updates

- i. We have a new Kids Company Site Leader at Avon Elementary School: Sutton Amberg. Sutton graduated from BOLD High School and has previously subbed in schools. His wife graduated from Albany High School. We are happy to have him join our team!
- ii. We will be hosting the Lake Wobegon Community Expo on Sat., 3/19/22 in the BECC. There will be kids activities, many businesses represented, a petting zoo, and many more fun activities. There will also be drawings for prizes for attendance.
- iii. The April 13, 2022 School Board Meeting will include a decision for the referendum vote in August 2022 regarding the former hospital acquisition for the Early Childhood and Kindergarten space.

b. Recreation Programming/BECC

- i. Cardio Drumming is going well. Kelly is still in search of a fitness instructor to do early morning classes.
- ii. We had successful elementary soccer camps and Soccer Saturdays and are excited with the club's assistance to run Soccer Mondays this summer.
- iii. Archery is ending their season at the end of March. Archer Katie Dolan has taken 2nd place for HS Girls in the Melrose and Sauk Centre meets; 8th Grade Archer Cora Rushmeyer took 2nd place at the Sauk Centre Tournament for Middle School Girls.
- iv. Open swim started last Sunday and there were 18 people who enjoyed time in the pool.
- v. The Spring/Summer 2022 brochure will be arriving in homes within the first weeks of April with the new class offerings.
- vi. We are actively working on recruiting swim lesson instructors and hope to continue offering semi-private swimming lessons (3:1 teacher/student ratio) and private swimming lessons (1:1 teacher/student ratio) as we have in the past.
- vii. BECC- Our February average is 42 people a day with Wednesday and Saturday being the busiest days.

c. Enrichment Programming/BEAT

- i. Computer Science Club is back and we are working with CBS/SJU students again. We have 11 students registered in this class.
- ii. We also are offering Cookie Decorating and an upcoming Cake Pops class with instructor Char Bzdok. She will also offer a Kids Nature walk this spring.
- iii. BEAT shows are going well, with our next show, Artrageous, on March 25 @ 7 pm and the final show on May 7.
- iv. We are nearing planning completion of the 2022-23 Season and we will be announcing the lineup at the May show.

- d. Early Childhood Programs
 - i. We will be having a Fine Motor Night for PreK 1 students on Tuesday evening, 3/15/22 at Avon Elementary School. This event is open to students ages 2-3 and their parents.
 - ii. Preschool registration for the 2022-2023 school year will be happening online on Thurs., 3/17/22 starting at 4:30pm. We will have staff available to answer questions during this time.
 - iii. Preschool class sections and dates TBD based on classroom space available and registrations received.
- e. Kids Company/Preschool Camp & Wrap-Around Care
 - i. Summer programming is underway. Have contacted the Rox, Twins, and Hemker Zoo regarding field trip planning.
 - ii. Staffing changes in Kids Co. due to spring sports starting. Summer will bring another change of staffing due to students being home from college.
- f. Community/Other
 - i. We are looking to have our Girls Softball Grades 2-5 program play other local teams this summer (instead of only the Albany/Avon teams). We are hopeful to compete against Holdingford and ROCORI. In the future, we may look at doing something similar with U12 and U14 teams to help eliminate sometimes extensive travel being part of a larger league.
 - ii. Albany-Avon Soccer Club is starting this summer. Practices will be held at the Avon Elementary School field for regulation play, and the HS field for practices. AAS teacher, Jason Thelen, is the president of the club.
 - iii. T-ball will be offered again this summer for PreK and Kindergarten students. Instructional ball will again be offered for grades 1 & 2. Both classes will be offered on Wednesday evenings.
 - iv. The 5K event will be held again this summer during Heritage Days.
 - v. We will continue to offer local township and city discounts for certain areas on Summer Recreation activities. Diane Noll, Albany Township Clerk, has been encouraging all of our local townships and city entities to offer similar discounts as a benefit to their residents.
 - vi. GREAT Theatre will be hosting two 1-week theatre camps in the BEAT this summer.

C. Other

- a. New Programming/Potential Partnership Brainstorm:
 - i. Summer Huskie Sports Performance will continue with different time slots to ensure personalized instruction for athletes.
 - ii. A suggestion was made to look into Camp Invention, which is a program previously offered by Holy Family School.
 - iii. Suggestion of teacher Aaron Schwenzfeier or community member Michelle Parker to possibly instruct morning boot camp classes.
 - iv. Pondview Estate partnerships with residents and Summer Kids Company participants. Possibly to include the PotSpot.
- b. 2021-2022 Meeting Schedule
 - i. May 12