

**Deposit Middle-High School Site-Based Team  
Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2008**

In attendance:

Parents: Julie Wist  
Teachers: Sarah Evans, Jamie Jensen, Anita Mott  
Students: Logan Evans  
Community Member: Jeanne Tucker  
Administrators: David Richards, Barbara Phillips  
Guest Speakers: Jackie Arnold-Sullivan, Mark MacCraie

Absent:

Ellen Macumber, Tred Burch, Jennifer Lobdell, Brittany Stanton

Old Business:

1. Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed. Dave made the motion to accept, Julie 2<sup>nd</sup>; minutes approved.
2. Dave reported that there is no new news on the school resource officer or J block.
3. Dave and Barb met with the department chairs on 2/11/08 to discuss next year's scheduling. Initial planning will take place (with the principals) over February break.
4. Anita will contact Bonnie to see if a scheduling committee is being created.
5. Sarah reported that she is still trying to recruit new members and will put information in the February newsletter.
6. Sarah provided a handout to share recommendations sent to Ed for the District Biennial Review.
7. The committee's goals were revisited. A hybrid schedule is being considered for the 08-09 school year. (Possible "skinny" classes for math and L.O.T.E.)

New Business:

1. Jackie-Arnold Sullivan attended the meeting to discuss the concern of a high teenage pregnancy rate in Deposit.
  - a. There are not a lot of local resources to assist with this issue.
  - b. Deposit has often been #1 in the highest teenage pregnancy rate in the state.
  - c. There are agencies that are willing to help. These include: Department of Social Services, Mothers and Babies Network, Planned Parenthood
  - d. Jackie feels that lack of sex education is not the issue, there is more of an issue of low self-esteem/lack of values. Some females who have gotten pregnant have shared that they got pregnant to be loved or to have someone to love.
  - e. There has been no organized effort in Deposit to deal with this problem since Jackie has been working as the school's social worker.
  - f. In the past, the Deposit community has been "up in arms" when presentations are planned.

- g. Dave shared an idea to have former students who have had children serve on a panel to educate current students.
  - h. Jackie thinks it would be worthwhile to have a committee to further look at this issue.
  - i. Sarah feels that the concept of women in leadership needs to be developed in Deposit to bolster self-esteem and empower our young women.
  - j. Jackie will provide statistics to Dave. Barb and Dave will speak to Bonnie regarding a possible presentation to the Board of Education (open session, if possible.)
2. Mark MacCraie attended the meeting to answer guidance questions.
    - a. Mark provided a handout indicating current statistics of the senior class.
    - b. Students complete a 4 year plan with Mrs. Wheeler in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
    - c. There is no longer a local diploma available. Students will have to earn a 65% or higher on exams in order to receive a diploma. Mark feels this change will cause more drop-outs and increase the amount of GED students.
    - d. Timelines for students are posted on the website.
    - e. Scholarships were discussed—students cannot apply for DEEP scholarships until they have received their financial aid packages.
    - f. A package containing information on DEEP scholarships is handed out by Mrs. Begeal. It will also now be mailed home. This information is also posted on the website and put in the newsletter.
    - g. Dave and Mark will conduct 15 minute exit interviews with all seniors between now and June 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - h. Mark suggests a book to all juniors called, How to go to College Almost Free.
    - i. Financial Aid Night was a success. About 30-40 people attended.
    - j. Deposit's SAT scores are below NYS and national averages. Mark would support a prep course. Dave would like to have this in place for next year (with teacher compensation.)
    - k. Dave would like to see students taking more vigorous courses. He would like to make this the "norm."
    - l. Students are required to follow the guidelines in the student handbook when dropping classes.
    - m. Parents have to sign off if the change in class will result in a change in the type of diploma received. Dave will now be contacted when this is going to occur. He will contact the parents to once again clarify the change in course and diploma status.
    - n. Students can drop classes after two weeks, but will get a "w" (withdrawal).
  3. Committee members were asked to come to the next meeting with ideas to connect community members (parents and students) with school stakeholders.
  4. A committee to evaluate the eligibility policy will be created by Dave.
  5. School safety ideas will be discussed at the next meeting.
  6. The site-based team will meet again on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Distance Learning Room.