

To All Committee Members:

This is a reminder that our next committee meeting is this **Thursday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m.** in the Community Room at the Police Department. There was a very disappointing turnout at our last meeting on February 12th. Several people let me know in advance that they would be unable to attend but there were others who did not make the meeting without any communication.

Just to bring everyone up to date, we discussed for some time the name of the volunteer/mentor organization that we are going to be recommending as the single recommendation for the implementation of our committee's goal. We decided that we were getting hung up on giving it a name and that we needed to move on to the resources that would be needed to make this organization function effectively and that we could defer naming the organization to a later date.

As to the resources that would comprise this volunteer/mentor organization, here are some of the topics that we discussed:

1. There was unanimous consensus that the increasing diversity of foreign speaking students and parents in Manchester needed to be a vital component of our organization. We would need to make available a wide range of volunteers who speak foreign languages fluently.
2. We discussed establishing some sort of a "clearing house" for families to access all of the learning opportunities that are available in Town, such as library services, recreation programs, youth services and youth sports, YMCA and YWCA, scouting organizations, museums and performing arts and music opportunities (field trips to the performing arts, private instructions, C.A.S.T., Little Theater of Manchester). There was considerable emphasis on the arts and music.
3. We discussed the need for extensive technology resources to implement our vision.

We need to continue these discussions this Thursday evening and start to formulate very concrete proposals rather than general "wish lists".

I am going to order sandwiches again, but not as many since it appears a good number of people must eat before they come to the meeting. There have been quite a few left over sandwiches the past two meetings.

Finally, if you know that you are unable to attend, please let me know in advance. I have already heard from a couple of individuals who are unavailable. It is important for us to be able to complete our work that we have as much participation as possible.

See you Thursday.