

Children, Youth, and Family Master Plan for Town of Manchester, Connecticut
Education and After School Programming Committee
“Manchester, a community that celebrates and supports learning 24/7”

Meeting Notes
Thursday, February 12, 2009
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Manchester Police Department Community Room
East Middle Turnpike

Present: Tim O’Neil (facilitator), Richard Goll (consultant), six participants

- Some did not like the term “mentor” for inclusion in the name of the initiative
- Rich – consolidate vision statements
- Tim – will email entire membership list
- Language assistance for students and parents needed
- Clearinghouse for information – library, youth, YMCA, Scouts, sports, arts
- Tim – a need for space in Manchester to be donated
- Model after Town Hall Customer Service Center
- Outreach – neighborhood blockwatches, marketing/recruitment, church bulletins
- Waddell – parents volunteer to teach knitting, etc. and recruit parents of kids
- Folk dances taught
- Kiosks
- Marketing for constant awareness and volunteers
- Tim – asked Rich Goll about demographics for ethnicity
- Rich – Kids: yes; adults: no
- Tim – Asked about Rich’s vision statement: he said he has done it in other communities and he could not connect the dots so he wanted to do it early and see how everyone responded; met with mayor (chair of town council) and fielded questions; are we going in right direction; how will it resonate with politicians and town officials?
- Tim – another group will meet to figure out how to implement what the committees envision
- Rich – School superintendent, General Manager, Assistant School Superintendent, Assistant Manager (two elected, seven youth, ten facilitators)
- Rich – what are the strategies you would implement to use this?
- Tim – suggestion will require small army of volunteers
- Rich – lots of overlap (neighborhood group, youth development group)
- What is the value of doing learning centers?
- Rich – thriving centers, elementary schools, fire houses
- Rich – meaningful, authentic roles to contribute to neighborhood and peers; abdicating to professionals has brought society to where it is
- After May – implementation group will meet; Rich drafting as we go along; at end there will be a document

- Rich – uses a process template; not product template – focus areas; connectivity, adds research support; we have to say we made this decision because...; we review for clarification and confirmation
 - Financial literacy – “Family Economics” using professionals and residents
 - Youth development group
 - Chair of school board said we have to have better access for our facilities
 - Student participation to recruit
 - Tim will email members absent:
 - sharing decisions – no name yet
 - things need to be tackled
 - do we want to partner with any other committees, i.e. neighborhood, family economics (financial literacy)?
- Adjourned 7:35 p.m.
Next meeting Thursday, February 26, 2009; 6-7:30 p.m.