



Decisions at Every Turn Coalition  
April 11, 2017  
Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held at the Ashland Middle School in room 5

Attendees: Community Outreach Coordinator Kristin French, AHS principal Kelley St. Coeur, DAET Treasurer Claudia Rose, DAET Secretary Denise Montoya, STAND campaign coordinator Betsy Emberley, Student Services Director Kathy Silva, DFC Director Amy Turncliff, Coalition Chair Liz Byrnes, college student Rebecca Bonenfart, college student Megan St. Germain, college student Miranda Christen, AHS student Selma Chamine, Ashland police and School Resource officer David Muri, AMS Adjustment Counselor Kelly Roy, AHS Guidance Counselor Brian Garrigan, Board of Health member Judy Marguiles, BC student DAET intern Samantha Street

Meeting called to order at 5:35

Introductions and comment on plans for April vacation

Minutes:

- Minutes of February meeting were accepted unanimously, no changes.

Breaking The Barriers:

- Selma reported that the club would like to create a website, [breakingthebarriers.org](http://breakingthebarriers.org), but they need DAET to buy the domain name for \$36 a year.
- They met 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and discussed what makes a leader. Mindess principal Mr. Caira provided pizza. It was fun and successful.
- As part of the Inspire program, a doctor came to talk about what it was like to go through medical school. A Harvard graduate will come in May.
- Neha and Hailey will attend the Metrowest Youth Summit on April 24.
- Selma wanted to clarify that BTB is focuses on leadership; they don't promote prevention exclusively.

Policy update:

- Amy testified on the joint committee on marijuana. It is a committee made up of members from both the House and Senate. She was disappointed at the lack of knowledge of the committee members.
- The state has formed an Alcohol Task Force. It appeared they were considering loosening the restrictions. A group of public health and prevention experts wrote a letter explaining “here’s what we know works”. Liz will work on creating our own letter and it will be posted on our website when it’s done. A vote was taken and all were in favor.

#### Community programming:

- We have had a series of 10 programs a year for the past three years. We have partnered the Friends of the Ashland Library for all of these and some are co-hosted by the PTO, ASHPAC and the schools. Betsy would like to change the name and create a mission statement. She suggested a name but the group decided to work on creating new suggestions and bring those for discussion at next month’s meeting.
- Betsy had many people vote on the programming for next year. They picked 10 from a suggested list of 16.
- Betsy added a new program in May called Courageous Conversations about diversity and tolerance. Youth and adults will pair up.
- We will have the community data in late May and early June.

#### Program coordinator position:

- DAET is still looking. The first round of interviewees were ruled out.

#### Community assessment:

- Samantha has a rough draft of the survey questions. Amy and Kristin have seen it. Samantha will put the rough draft into survey monkey to get additional suggestions.

#### Celebration of success:

- The Assistant Superintendent evaluated our Health and Wellness program and compared it with many others. He determined three areas should be addressed; social/emotional learning, health and wellness, and physical education. He wants to add one staff member to each school every year until there is one in every building. He will get a consultant to develop lesson plans.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:09pm