



Decisions at Every Turn Coalition

Meeting Minutes

Mar. 12th, 2019

Ashland Middle School Library, 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Welcome & Introductions

Amy Turncliff, Jennifer Wuelfing, Judy Margulies, Kelly Roy, Kristin French, Dave DiGirolamo, Alison Rose, Betsy Emberley, Paul Vieira, Neha Shabeer, Meredith Reilly, Taylor Simpson, Cici Labbe, Rheeya Patel, Clara Werkema, Olivia Werkema, Nancy Cleary

Acceptance of Feb. 25th meeting minutes

Attendees were asked if they had any changes to the February minutes. No changes were recommended. A motion was made to accept the minutes. A second motion was made. The minutes were accepted. Copies of all Coalition meeting minutes are available on the website for review.

Prevention Message for PSA activity

DAET is looking to build a series of PSAs. We took this opportunity to talk with students about what kind of messaging around healthy decision making and making positive choices would resonate with students, particularly students in grades 6-8. Student comments included:

- Avoiding statistics
- Using older siblings as messengers i.e. having them state that seeing the STAND campaign is believable
- The Truth campaign is good - using humor/puppets attracts attention and leads to listening to the message
- Do not use intimidation
- Using scare tactics lead to students not paying attention to the message
- Middle school students can be influential for elementary school students
- Using positive peer pressure
- Skits would be attractive to middle school students

- Consider the effects on different groups – athletes not begin able to play, all students having academic consequences/poor performance/school discipline. Important to identify with the messenger to avoid “It won’t happen to me”
- Show the various actors and their consequences with actual athletes, etc. in the roles
- Show the positive side of not using substances – not using alcohol etc. is more fun
- Show 2 students who are equal in all aspects, then the comparison of the positive outcomes for the student who does not use and the negative outcomes for the student who does use
- Consider the “I choose ...” campaign

BTB – Spark, March 21st

BTB students will work with 4th and 5th grade student council members on leadership skills. They will address and discuss positive peer modeling, communication, and leadership through movement based and discussion based activities.

PCN/PCF Training update

On March 25th and 26th, DAET will host a training for school staff, town employees, parents, and other key stakeholders on the Positive Cultural Framework. The training will prepare community members to plan and implement a community-wide campaign to promote health and safety.

POWER

On March 11, POWER featured the Courageous Conversation: Conversation vs. Confrontation with Jamele Adams. Jamele is the Dean of Students at Brandeis and known for his spoken word poetry on social issues. Three poems were recited and used as the basis for round table discussions on having conversations about difficult topics without confrontation.

On March 26th, POWER will feature the *Community Book Read iGen*

On May 2, *College...Next Stop* will help parents think about how to cope with their student’s growing maturity and the new relationship that lies ahead as their student transitions to college.

Announcements

- There are 5 new Parenting for Prevention tip sheets available on our website: Substance Use & Misuse: Boys, Substance Use & Misuse: Girls, E-Cigarettes, Vaping & JUULing

(updated), Anxiety and Depression. All tip sheets are available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian.

Celebrations

- Courageous Conversation: Conversation vs. Confrontation was well attended by students and adults and very well received. POWER program.
- The Internet and Cyber safety parent program hosted by the Middle School was a huge success. More than 30 parents attended.