

Community Relations Subcommittee
March 31, 2011
6:00 p.m. WMS Library
Submitted by Robert Louzan

Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Attendance:

Rhonda Veugen
Anne Cote
Barry Rabinovitch
Bob Louzan
Carol Spenard
Christian Fernandes
Deborah Rose
Donna Ashley
Jan Rotella
Jenna Lehane
Lynn Sykes
Marie Garrity
Mary Morgan
Teri DeFilippo

- Approval of Minutes, passed by majority
- Introductions were made
- Review of agenda by Rhonda Veugen with summaries:
 - Sign in and group yourself for action portion of involvement in the committee
 - Presentation of the various categories that members will sign up for (content, promotion, procure strategic partnerships, generic)
 - Data Review: Parent Survey
 - Survey was sent out in February, 2011 by WPS to parents of students who live in Wareham but attend other schools such as parochial schools and Choice student
 - 64 surveys received of 164 sent
 - Review of most common reasons that students were not attending WPS:
 - Concern about academic standards
 - Concern about safety
 - Quality of teaching/instruction in new school
 - Discussion of the data related to the parent survey
 - Concern of parents of students who are in our schools-fear of having children entering middle school
 - Dr. Rabinovitch commented on the importance to look at the developmental level of the students such as the middle school aged children

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- Discussion of the type of information that can be extracted from this survey of parents who have chosen to not have their children in WPS.
 - Discussion by several that it is important to work to keep parents of students who are attending our schools engaged and well informed.
 - Discussion of the parent WPS survey process now-that it is online for the first time (will be posted 4/4/11).
- Discussion: Goals
 - Review of the three strategic goals that seem pertinent to this committee
 - School-community partnerships
 - Expand application/integration of technology to improve learning, instruction and the organization of the school community
 - Procure sustainable resources necessary to provide an excellent learning experience
 - Review of areas seen by administrators as needing greater promotion
 - Review of opportunities that currently exist for parents/community members to get involved
 - Discussion of the need to place goals in SMART goals format
 - Review of proposed goals
 - Improve methods by which the district communicates programs and services available to Wareham children and promotes opportunities for community members and parents to get involved
 - Discussion-WHS website is not updated.
 - Need for common format on the website
 - Focus on word of mouth, media, events, websites/goals
 - WCTV working with WHS to improve the information flow
 - Create partnerships that will expand the reach of schools and the district
 - Need to keep the information flow among businesses, organizations and other youth stakeholders
 - These goals will be in place through the summer and there will be a review and revision of goals at that point
- Action Item
 - Immediate needs
 - Comedy night- The group will get posters placed around town to help get tickets sold
 - Capturing email addresses of parents- How can we obtain as many as possible for all guardians and parents. There is a problem with obtaining reliable guardian emails across all grades. Discussed some options for an "email campaign"
- Next Meeting Date
 - April 28th at 5:30 at WMS Library

Meeting adjourned – 7:20 p.m.

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