

Supporting Youth Success

The Promise of Expanded Learning Opportunities

Joint Leadership Team and Advisory Committee Meeting

June 4, 2010

Meeting Summary

Where We've Been and Where We are Going

Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn provided a recap of the first two meetings of the joint Leadership and Advisory Committees. In October 2009 the advisory committee assisted in developing the vision and goal of the initiative. In February 2010 the advisory committee assisted in identifying policies, resources and best practices that could assist in the alignment and connection of learning in the classroom with learning in the community.

Laura L-D reported on the work of the initiative since the February meeting:

- The Leadership Team traveled to Cincinnati, OH and northern Kentucky to visit high quality afterschool programs and learn from these communities how they are aligning learning in the community with learning in the classroom
- Youth were engaged through a Youth Advisory Council and YOUth SPEAK! community dialog process to learn what knowledge, skills and abilities youth thought they needed to learn to be successful and where they are learning these skills. Young people also reported on how they would design a learning day.
- Outline of the framework was prepared for review and comment by the advisory team.

Leadership and advisory committee members were joined by the youth advisors to share their work and ideas with the larger committee. The outline of the framework was presented and reviewed by committee members.

Youth Voices from around MN

The youth advisors introduced themselves and their adult partners. They provided information on their charge as youth advisors and the process they used to engage other youth from around MN. The youth with the assistance of the youth engagement consultant, Andrea Jasken Baker, developed a community dialog process with young people to learn what knowledge, skills and abilities youth thought they needed to learn to be successful and where they are learning these skills. The youth advisors shared the findings from the YOUth SPEAK! community dialog process using a large visual diagram that had been designed by the youth themselves and the consultant. Follow the link to view the [youth voice visual](#).

The youth and adult advisors engaged in conversations about the process and findings. Key themes from these conversations were recorded and shared later through a large group process. Adult advisors expressed gratitude to the youth advisors for taking on this work and joining them to share the findings.

Preliminary Review and Discussion of Supporting Youth Success Framework

An outline of the policy framework and logic behind it were provided to the leadership and advisory committee members. Contextual factors affecting the acceptance and implementation of the policy framework were identified including; the changing landscape of political leadership in Minnesota (both gubernatorial leadership as well as house and senate members) and the impact of the recession on state and local governments. The short and long term outcomes of the framework were identified and discussed. The long term outcomes of the initiative were identified as positive youth outcomes. The short term outcomes of the initiative were identified as outcomes controlled by communities and systems that deliver formal and non-formal learning opportunities to youth. The framework will call communities to action in support of long term outcomes for youth.

Next Steps including Support of Advisory Team Members

Outreach to key constituency groups will begin prior to the next meeting. A draft framework and key messages will be reviewed at the final meeting of the joint leadership and advisory committee in October 2010.