



# COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

## *PAK Empowerment Board Meeting Minutes May 19th, 2008 At First UMC in Algona*

**Mission:**

- \* Provide developmentally appropriate learning experiences for all children age's birth to five.
- \* Provide training support to parents and other caregiver of the birth to five populations.
- \* Prepare children age birth to five with the skills needed to learn to be ready to take advantage of educational opportunities and learn to the best of their ability.

<u>Voting Members Present</u>	<u>Voting Members Absent</u>	<u>Others Present (non-voting)</u>
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Dini Anderson	Donna Bonstetter	Sara Curtis
Roberta Anderson	Nancy Clark	Kristin Faber
Dixie Meyer	Ted Erb	Paige Hollinger
Mike Orthel	Barb Grandstaff	Betsy Moritz
Ellen Picray	Arlet Johnson	Greg Bradley
Blair Redenius	Jack Plathe	Jennifer Carr
Marc Singer	Erv Rowland	Diane Casto
Linda Tienter	Keith Wirtz	
Billie Wille (1:40 arrival)		

\*recorded absence

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. at First UMC in Algona. The meeting was set for 1:15, but due to the lack of quorum, no administrative items were addressed until 1:40.

### **Developmentally Appropriate Learning Experiences**

**A. YMCA Childcare Report-** Jenny Carr reported for the YMCA. The YMCA thanked the board for the recent mini-grant. They shared that there are 170 children in their current enrollment. 60 preschool age children. 14-25 children are located at the Bryant site at one time. They are taking summer enrollment and are expecting continued growth. A positive thing for parents is that the Y provides transportation to baseball and swimming lessons in the summer. They currently provide transportation from preschool to the Y childcare. They are working with Head Start and the school district for improved transportation

collaboration.

- B. KIDS program report** – Betsy Moritz reported for the KIDS program. Presently they have a waiting list. They are going through Family Support Credentialing. KIDS workers have done 50 developmental screenings, have helped with child find clinics and are busy with home visits. Betsy thanked the board for the support for program expansion this past year. Betsy is retiring this spring and the AEA is advertising for her position. KIDS program reported their outcomes through the third quarter.
- C. Growing Together** – Sara Curtis reported that Growing Together was based off of the Early Learning Standards and she passed around sample lessons. The schedule was adapted some from this past fall. In the fall groups met 1x per mo. and for the spring this continued for the areas where it worked well and was changed to be held 4 consecutive weeks in a row in the areas that were struggling with attendance. This change improved attendance. Locations had 2 – 15 children per site. Sara passed around evaluations given to parents attending.

## II. Administrative Items

- A. Approve Minutes from April 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting** – Paige shared that she had a correction from the original minutes sent out. Mike Orthel had not been listed as present. The correction was made to the minutes given to the board members at the May meeting. Dixie Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Ellen Picray seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- B. Distribute budget and monthly expenditure sheets** – Paige shared that due to the monthly meeting being earlier in the month, expenditures had not gone through the AEA books and amounts were to be found in the “ordered or promised” category. Ellen Picray made a motion to approve the budget and expenditure sheets, Marc Singer seconded the motion and the motion passed. Sara Curtis requested using her \$ in professional development to pay for an Early Childhood class. She requested that extra money in her mileage line item to be used to pay for the remainder of the class. Billie Wille made a motion to approve the request. Blair Redenius seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- C. Tuition Assistance Update** – Paige reported that we have 67 new applications for next year. Paige asked for clarification to avoid conflict of interest. Under PAK policies, her son qualifies for tuition assistance this year. Ellen Picray volunteered as a board member to review his application to avoid conflict of interest.
- D. Legislative Update** – Paige shared with the board the preliminary numbers for FY '09. She shared that the final numbers should be given next week. Because the amount given is more than originally thought, it was suggested that a committee meet to give thought to ideas to expand services. Marc Singer, Ellen Picray and Dini Anderson volunteered to be on the committee. The committee will meet June 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at the AEA office in Algona.
- E. Outcome Committee Report** – Ellen Picray reported. She shared that the committee reviewed our priorities outlined from our Community Plan. The first priorities were to fund the KIDS program, Healthy Families, Childcare Coordinator, Empowerment Coordinator and Family Resource Coordinator. She shared that the committee had some concerns with the nursery programs. The committee will meet with the programs for further review. Head Start requested funding for transportation. The committee will continue to work with them to develop a most cost effective and possibly collaborative plan. Diane Casto from

Head Start clarified the barriers to transportation and confirmed that she is looking into family needs and will work with us to develop a plan for those children that need transportation.

- F. **Resignation of Blair Redenius** – Blair Redenius submitted a letter of resignation for his position as a school representative. He is retiring this spring from the Algona School district. Billie Wille made a motion to approve his resignation. Ellen Picray seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- G. **Meetings for FY 09** – Mike Orthel asked the board for input into meeting times for next year. The board shared that most felt the meeting time 1:15 on the fourth Monday of the month worked well for most everyone. It was suggested that we hold the same schedule as last year with meeting every month except July and Dec. If the budget is not approved at the June board meeting, we will need to meet the first week in July to approve it before it is due to the state by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **III. Open Discussion-**

Kristin Faber requested to meet with the Personnel Committee

Sara Curtis shared a thank you from Little Learners childcare and Preschool

### **IV. Next Meeting - The next board meeting is set for June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:15 at ILCC in Emmetsburg**

Ellen Picray made a motion to adjourn. Marc Singer seconded the motion and the motion passed.

*State Empowerment Web Site*      [www.empowerment.state.ia.us](http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us)

*PAK Empowerment Web Site*      [www.pakempowerment.com](http://www.pakempowerment.com)