

PALO ALTO & KOSSUTH COUNTIES



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

PAK Empowerment Board Meeting Minutes August 27th, 2007 At ILCC in Emmetsburg

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.

Voting Members Present

Dini Anderson
Roberta Anderson
Nancy Clark
Barb Grandstaff
Arlet Johnson
Dixie Meyer
Mike Orthel
Ellen Picray
Jack Plathe
Marc Singer
Sara Stevens
Keith Wirtz

Voting Members Absent

Jerry Hofstad
Blair Redenius*
Erv Rowlands*
David VanOosbree
Billie Wille*

Others Present (non-voting)

Sara Curtis
Kristin Faber
Paige Hollinger
Betsy Moritz
Connie Siebenbruner

*recorded absence

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. at ILCC in Emmetsburg

Administrative Items

- A. The minutes** from the June 25th board meeting were read. Dixie Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Marc Singer seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- B. The budget and expenditures sheets** were distributed and read. Paige shared that a few expenses that were spent in FY'07 were not taken out of FY' 07, but were taken out of FY '08. She shared that this was not a problem for this year as we do not have too much carry-over and she adjusted the FY '08 budget accordingly.

- The carry over amounts are the final numbers. We have a little more carryover than originally estimated, but Paige shared that she had been conservative in estimating carryover amounts originally. Ellen Picray made a motion to approve the budget and expenditure sheets. Nancy Clark seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- C. Distribute board meeting dates and times for FY '08**– Paige passed around a handout with FY '08 board meeting dates and times. Included with the dates were the programs that would be reporting each meeting.
- D. Tuition Assistance**– Paige reported that one of the changes suggested by the state for our FY '08 budget was that we reported how much we were budgeting for the various income levels. Paige reported that we have received 69 TA applications for those under the 200% poverty level. With covering these children, we have enough to cover with partial scholarships those between the 200-300% poverty level and many more additional families that may apply. Paige also shared that she had talked with Head Start. There is a waiting list in Palo Alto, so they were not opposed to us providing tuition assistance for Head Start eligible children to attend other preschools. In Algona, Paige shared that the Head Start was not full. Paige talked with Head Start, the teachers and administrators of the local preschools and the families applying for tuition assistance that qualified for Head Start. In many cases, Paige, along with other preschools, shared info. about Head Start with these families. Paige inquired as to reasons families were not choosing to send their child to Head Start. She shared these reasons with Head Start. Although the Algona center is not full, Head Start has a waiting list over all and were not opposed to us providing tuition assistance to those that applied. Paige will work with Head Start this year to see what we can do to strengthen the Algona site. Ellen Picray made a motion to approve the tuition assistance budget. Mike Orthel seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- E. Revised Budget** – Paige passed around a copy of the revised FY '08 budget. Some of the suggested changes made by the state were to move the nursery programs into Quality Improvement or into the other category for the school ready budget. Another change was to report in Tuition Assistance how much was to be spent for various income levels. Also included were the final carryover numbers for each budget area. Paige made these changes to the budget. Marc Singer made a motion to approve the revised budget. Barb Grandstaff seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- F. Kindergarten Readiness Surveys** –Paige shared that she reported on Kindergarten readiness with the surveys and the state results of the Dibles. She asked the board about their desire to continue with the surveys. Although they are more comprehensive, they are more labor intensive for the schools and we have seen fewer and fewer returned. The state collects Dibles scores statewide and reports them for our area. The board was in agreement not to continue with the surveys at this time.
- G. FY '07 Annual Report** – Paige passed out copies of the FY '07 Annual Report. Paige noted some changes to our community wide indicators. She included some numbers along with the percents to give a better perspective on the stats. She also took out % with adequate prenatal care as that is a difficult stat to be accurate on community wide. There was a question as to the accuracy of Palo Alto nursery stats. Paige said that she copied them from the nursery report and will ask them about the accuracy. Nancy Clark made a motion to approve the annual report,

Keith Wirtz seconded the motion and the motion passed.

H. Board Chair and Vice Chair for FY '08- According to our policies, the vice chair, Mike Orthel moves to the chair. Arlet Johnson was nominated to vice chair. Dixie Meyer motioned for nominations to cease and to approve Mike Orthel as chair and Arlet Johnson as vice chair, seconded by Marc Singer. The motion passed.

I. Approve resignation of Jerry Hofstad from board – Paige reported that she had talked with Jerry Hofstad and that he was no longer interested in being on the board. Keith Wirtz made a motion to approve the resignation of Jerry Hofstad from the board, seconded by Ellen Picray and the motion passed. Keith Wirtz shared that there was another Palo Alto supervisor interested in the board position. Keith will bring him to the next board meeting.

II. Developmentally Appropriate Learning Experiences

A. Child care coordinator report - Kristin reported that we had an increase in the number of providers. Kristin is expanding her visits to include giving credit for providers to implement things they have learned. Kristin is also working with CCR&R to issue training credit and certificates. She is also working to tie the Early Learning Standards into her Literacy promotion visits.

B.

III. Open discussion

The next board meeting is set for September 24th at 1:15 at First United Methodist Church in Algona.

State Empowerment Web Site www.empowerment.state.ia.us