



Date: Wednesday, September 05, 2007

Subject: Drug Free DeSoto Task Force Meeting

Location: School Board Chambers

Attendees: Superintendent Cline, Director Hrstka, Barnwell, Principal Goodman, Spas, Yost, Hilaire, Mays, Principal Terry, Burns, Lewis (Guest Mitzie McGavic)

Superintendent Cline called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. Superintendent Cline welcomed the committee and congratulated Trent Terry as the new Principal at DCHS.

Speakers Report:

There is no pending request for speakers at this time. Principal Terry advised the committee of the Hope Program at DCHS. This is a requirement for all freshmen consisting of half Health Education and half P.E. Principal Terry will inquire with faculty regarding a Drug Free DeSoto speaker to give a presentation. Superintendent Cline also suggested Lt. Mays present the gang program. Mary Kay Burns offered the Public Health Issues video available through the Department of Health.

Website Report:

The number of hits has increased now that school is in session. If you think of something that needs to be added, please advise Superintendent Cline.

Youth Activities Report:

Director Hrstka met with DCHS Sub-Debs and Key Club sponsors and officers, Principal Terry, and Assistant Principal Steele. Students would like to involve additional clubs to help with the preparations for the activities event.

Mitzie McGavic and Cathy Miller have been working together to coordinate the 5K Walk. Mrs. McGavic has offered to help and volunteer her time with the 5K Walk. Mary Kay Burns suggested joining with the Department of Health during the Step Up Florida. This event normally takes place in February each year around Valentines Day. Department of Health spends between five and ten thousand dollars promoting Step-Up Florida. Drug Free DeSoto Task Force members agreed this would be perfect.

Drug Treatment for Youth Report:

Mr. Hrstka and Mary Kay Burns will attend a meeting today with Coastal Recovery to inquire about drug treatment services coming from Sarasota.

Public Relations Report:

Sara will submit a press release to the newspaper regarding drug use and gang activities.

Gang Activity Report:

Lt. Mays reported that due to school being back into session there has not been much gang activity.

Task Force Members' Report:

Mary Kay Burns reported that the Health Department will be gracious enough to help the Drug Free DeSoto Task Force if the money applied for regarding a tobacco grant is received. DFD was included on the grant as a partner.

Glenda Lewis provided copies of the latest Florida Department of Juvenile Justice office of Probation and Community Corrections – Circuit 12 County by County PACT Data June 2007 report. The percentages are based on the number of students in Juvenile Justice. Mrs. Lewis will advise Superintendent Cline if this report is approved for our website posting.

Dottie Yost reported the latest on self mutilation. Students will wear a long sleeve shirt with thumb attachments that keep the sleeve down. These individuals are known as *cutters*.

Superintendent Cline reported the effective date of August 20, 2007, for the Drug and Alcohol Testing of Students who participate in extra-curricular activities. Students testing positive will not be suspended from school but will be from clubs and extra-curricular activity.

Superintendent Cline also thanked Mary Kay Burns for suggesting we partner with the Department of Health for the Step-Up Florida.

Next Meeting Date & Time:

The next Drug Free DeSoto Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. in the board chambers.