

SIT Notes 13-14 Jan 6<sup>th</sup> 2014

Meeting opened at 2:45

Present: Tamanna Bhatia, Kaitlyn Coughlin, Chris Homer, Danielle Lauro, Samantha Lauro, Jay Matuk, Joseph Monastero, Jennifer Pickering, Terry Sajewski, Michelle Sepanski, Marie Strunk and Michael Terracciano

Review of the previous notes

- Notes were approved
- Some discussion of the current relaxation program occurred (Mr. Homer runs the program in his High School health Class)
- Question – Can observers attend the SIT answer yes
- Review of the school SIT Page with the group
- Senior Survey
  - Members working on the survey
    -
- The Lauro girls reviewed the results of the Climate Survey
  - Retreat
  - Mentor Program
    - To help students guide younger students in school
      - Scheduling
        - Selecting course
        - Possibly after school meeting
        - There will be a need for many students to participate in the program to have many points of view.
        - Ms. Pickering reviewed the many programs the guidance department runs to inform students of their scheduling options.
      - Stress
      - High School obstacles
    - Collect data on testing day information
      - Send the data to Dr. Browne for collection
      - Quiz are 10 minutes
      - Departments have preset testing days
      - The feeling is that there are staff members who test off their testing day or have very long tests.
      - Students are encouraged to contact and inform Mr. Matuk, Dr. Browne and/or Mr. Monastero
        - This will give kids a voice

- Students will be asked to provide the course, date, teacher and subject
- Drug Seminar for students
- Body image Seminar for students
- Ann Conyes – Naturalist that works with BOCES and Camusett
  - Discussed their programs
    - Students and adult team building programs
    - Day and overnight programs are available
    - The programs work in groups of 15 max with a total of 20 max groups (300 students)
    - The programs end with how the programs can/do impact them in school and life
    - Some students find new friendships in the group
    - They create a safe place for the students
  - Ms. Conyes took the team through a program at Camusett on tolerance and acceptance
    - Students broken into groups
      - Each has its own supervisor
      - Work on an introduction program with the students
      - Next a trusting/working together program with each group.
        - Work to get everyone involved
      - Activates working in the woods to help calm them down
      - During the day the students are bombarded with many challenges during the day.
      - Compass and GPS movement / hiking programs
        - Orienteering
        - Sheltering and safety program
      - There are about 35 programs offered
      - The leaders have many years of experience in the program
      - Cost to of the program
        - Mrs. Conyes was not sure of the exact costs.
        - Each program is different
      - Programs are min 3 hours to 6 for a day
      - Oee (Outdoor and Environmental Education) at the Nassau Boces site has information about the program.
        - The team reviewed the website
      - Discussion of some programs and grade levels were discussed.

- Can interlock with courses i.e.: Bio, Earth Earth Science, Chem, Marine Bio Etc.
  - Ms. Coneys will take anyone to preview a program.
  - All Weather programs
- Which program do the students like the most. Students liked the Caumsutt program the best.
  - Talk about the challenge day occurred
  - One of the parents discussed how her students participated in the program and liked it
  - Programs work but many times students go back to their previous groups.
    - Talk about continued follow-up to keep it alive
    - There are projects that do go home after the program.
    - Possible use of parent groups to fund the program
    - Possible habitat for humanity program. At St. Johns Church.
    - Mr. Matuk will get cost info ASAP
  - Adjournment: 4:10