

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 18, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT:

Paul Reiz
Peter Keating
Frank Blowers
Mike Kramer
Debbie Bouts

ABSENT:

Chuck Shields
Bob Beedon
Kathy Sasinowski

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Bierbusse
Linda McLatcher

Mr. Keating called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2006 MINUTES

FRANK BLOWERS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 29, 2006 AS PRESENTED; SUPPORT BY PAUL REIZ. MOTION CARRIED. Kramer abstained.

III. REPORT ON PROGRAM YEAR 2006 YOUTH SERVICES CONTRACTS

b. Out-of-School

A report of the out-of-school programs for activities up to April 9th showed activity of students participating in eight (8) programs. Most students are between the ages of 19 and 21 and are working to obtain a GED or secured diploma. Many experience barriers such as pregnancies, substance abuse, etc. The ultimate goal of the program is to secure employment. To date, 23 students have attained a GED; 21 have obtaining employment; 285 remain active.

a. In-school

The students participating in the nine (9) in-school programs are economically disadvantaged senior students who work on various skills including work readiness and career exploration. It is anticipated that most will graduate at the end of the school year. At this time, 26 have received either a diploma or GED; 16 are employed; 476 remain active. These numbers will adjust as the school year ends.

IV. RECOMMENDATION ON CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2007

b. Out-of-School

After releasing in February requests for proposals for youth programs, a total of eight (8) out-of-school proposals were submitted for consideration. All are from existing service providers. Ms. McLatcher noted that the RFP request was for a 3-year period to assist in determining program directions and budgets.

Warren Woods Community Schools has requested an initial \$52,076 to serve 15 students in the 2007 program year. However, after comparing to past performance, staff reduced the amount to \$27,447, the same amount as last year.

L'Anse Creuse seeks \$135,064 for 75 students attending their alternative school, Riverside, and also a component within the Macomb County jail. Since they have not met past enrollment numbers, staff recommending reducing the cost to \$57,627.

St. Clair Learning Academy is an expensive program as space must be rented to serve adjudicated youth. They requested \$160,206 to serve 40 participants. Staff recommended funding at \$149,544.

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Mt. Clemens Schools requested funds for 60 students at a cost of \$105,928. This is also a very aggressive alternative high school program and staff recommended full funding.

St Clair County Community College requested \$94,506 to serve 50 students. Staff recommended a funding level of \$91,764.

Blue Water Center for Independent Living assists the disabled. They requested \$93,845 to service 50 participants. Staff recommended \$82,269.

Fitzgerald Public Schools is seeking \$161,780 for 70 students in an alternative high school program. Due to past number of enrollments, staff recommended reducing the cost to \$135,587.

Leaps and Bounds requested \$79,428 to provide services to 25 students. Staff recommended full funding.

FRANK BLOWERS MOVED TO APPROVE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY PAUL REIZ. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. In-School

A total of ten in-school proposals were submitted for consideration. Proposers were allowed to submit for both summer programs and year-round continuum programs.

L'Anse Creuse Schools requested \$42,360 to service 15-20 students during the summer and \$20-25 students through the continuum. Full funding was recommended.

St. Clair County Regional Education Services Agency, formerly the intermediate school district, serves high school students in all districts of St. Clair County. They are requesting \$406,095 to operate a summer program for 100 to 120 students, and a continuum program for 250-300 students. Staff recommended full funding.

St. Clair Learning Academy requested \$137,182 for a continuum program for 40 students. However, past performance reflects the projected enrollment figure as very high. Staff recommended reducing the enrollment number to ten (10) and lowering the cost to \$15,000.

Mt. Clemens Schools is seeking \$68,656 to operate a summer and continuum program. Staff recommended full funding.

Fitzgerald Public Schools also wishes to operate a summer and year-round continuum. They have requested \$259,386. Due to past performance, staff recommended reducing the amount to \$236,601.

The Macomb Intermediate School District wishes to serve six school districts through both a summer and a continuum program seeking a total of \$417,454. Costs were reduced to a theatrical component that staff felt would have logistical issues. The recommended amount is \$343,666.

Warren Woods has requested \$33,351 for a continuum program for 15 students. Due to past performance, staff felt this was a bit aggressive and recommended reducing the number of students to eight (8) and the amount of funding to \$20,000.

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Southwest Macomb Technical Education Consortium has requested \$36,695 to operate a continuum program in the Warren Woods school district. Staff recommended reducing the amount to \$35,490 for this new program.

Southwest Macomb Technical Education Consortium has requested \$50,542 to operate both a summer and continuum program at Lincoln High School in the Fitzgerald Schools district. The staff recommendation was for \$49,342.

Southwest Macomb Technical Education Consortium requested \$36,695 to operate a continuum program in Center Line for 26 students. Staff recommended \$35,490.

Staff discussed the value of the youth facilitators who operate the youth programs by commending their efforts of working closely with both students and Michigan Works case managers.

After review and discussion, **PAUL REIZ MOVED TO APPROVE CONTRACTS NEGOTIATIONS AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY DEBBIE BOUTS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

a. Youth Essay Competition

Last year the first youth essay competition was held with great results. Therefore, service providers were once again notified that the competition will be repeated. A certificate and cash prize to winners will be awarded as follows: first place is \$150; second place is \$100; and third place is \$50.

Students are provided a guideline specifying the requirements for submission, which include length of not more than 500 words with correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar, addressing how participation in the program has helped to achieve their educational goal.

The committee will review submissions at the May meeting and awards will be presented at the general meeting May 24th.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

VII. ADJOURNMENT

FRANK BLOWERS MOVED TO ADJOURN; SUPPORT BY PAUL REIZ. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 8:30 a.m., May 16, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carne
Recording Secretary