

Minutes
Meeting – June 13-15, 2004

National Network for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
Radisson Barcelo Hotel, 2121 P St. NW, Washington, DC

Sunday AM: June 13, 2004: New Coordinator Training

The Network provided a continental breakfast for the new coordinators and those participating in the morning training.

8:30 – Noon, Training: Training was conducted by Cynthia Timmons and Kathy Robertson of Region VII Comprehensive Assistance Center, Jeff Barber, Chair of the Network’s Professional Development Committee, Ms. Mona Johnson, Program Supervisor, Office of Supt. of Public Instruction, and David Quinlen, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

Lunch was “on your own” to continue informal networking opportunities.

Sunday, PM, June 13, 2004: National Network Business Meeting

Present per sign-in sheets: Forty-five individuals signed in as follows: Executive Committee members (4), Governor’s Office (10), SEA’s (19), LEA’s (6), Partners (5) and Researcher (1).
(See complete National Network attendee’s list on attachment A.)

The meeting was convened at 1 PM by Susie Roberts (WA GOV), Chair of the National Network.

Addition to the agenda: Susie Roberts added Code of Ethics to the agenda.

Social Hour: Patrick Aaby and Channing-Bete invited all members to attend a social hour at five o’clock and to preview Channing-Bete’s new web-based “Bullying Behavior Prevention” program.

Executive Committee Report by Susie Roberts

Saying Thanks: Denise and Susie presented Janelle Krueger, the out-going NN Secretary, with a gift and a big thank you for the wonderful work she had done over the past three years. Denise also thanked Mona Johnson, Jeff Barber, Cynthia Timmons and Kathy Robertson for conducting the New Coordinator Training.

Minutes Approved: Clarence Jones asked the committee to review the January 10-13, 2004 minutes. After the review the minutes were approved with one change to the correct spelling of Mack Sander's name.

Treasure's Report: Lawrence Piper reviewed the financial status of the network. The balance as of June 13, 2004 was \$12,980.00.

501c3 Update: Susie distributed a handout with the latest information concerning the 501c3 application status. Denise shared a brief history behind the struggle to obtain 501c3 status. Committee members are still working on this and hope to have it in place by the January 2005 meeting.

NPN/NN Letter: Lawrence Piper addressed the meeting concerning the NPN/NN joint letter that was sent to USDOE and CSAP requesting the opportunity to work collaboratively with them to make the work in the field easier. The discussion of this concern brought a positive response from those in attendance.

Committee Meeting: Susie Roberts passed out information concerning the eight Network committees. Due to lack of attendance with a number of committee members at this Network meeting, Susie asked that those committee members listed meet on Tuesday and prepare an update for the Executive Committee on their progress and status.

SDFSCA Coordinator's Letter: Arlene Cundiff, SEA, from Virginia discussed the letter she prepared for the Network inviting all state SEA and Governor's office members to attend the NN meeting. This letter addressed many of the National Network efforts along with requesting SDFSCA's SEAs and Governor's Office administrators to get involved and attend Network meetings.

Code of Ethics: Susie Roberts, Jeff Barber and Denise Fitch led a brief discussion concerning the Code of Ethics. Susie passed out the memo on the Code to review and comment. The following points were noted:

1. Vendors should not make pitch to purchase their materials during the NN meeting.
2. Call the "New Coordinator's Training" just "Coordinator's Training", dropping the "New".
3. Have the training and then break attendees into 2 groups, such as "New" (informational) and "Established" (updated) for all required information.
4. Have the Code to state what we will do instead of what we will not do.

Following this discussion each member was tasked to submit to Clarence Jones his or her suggestions concerning a code by noon on Tuesday. Clarence would then type and send them to the Executives Board for their review and actions.

Vice Chair Position: Denise Fitch discussed that her position as Vice Chair will end in January 2005. She talked about the requirement for the position and asked attendees to consider applying for the position when elections are done at the next meeting in January 2005.

Title IV Implementation Study by Denise Halfors

Denise Halfors presented information concerning the Fusion of the Principals of Effectiveness. Her presentation talked about the critical role in shaping these principles, how we are under funded to achieve required results, and the benefits of working with other government agencies. Denise also addressed the issues of how our programs are being administered and monitored, reconnecting youth programs and testing, what's easy and hard versus developers who have staff to support programs. Once these programs are in schools, school staffing would not have the same support as those of the developers when implementing their programs.

Several thoughts and concerns were discussed from this presentation noted below:

1. How do SEA's give directions to LEA's as it pertains to funding requirements?
2. How many Federal grants are in what region?
3. Prevention programs need to focus on success instead of shortcomings.
4. Very few schools are continuing programs when funds are gone.
5. We need to make a link between school climate and academic achievement.
6. Programs that are strong usually have an exciting and energetic person coordinating them.
7. Interview dropouts and see what would have kept them in school.
8. Some folks don't recognize that classroom management is a form of prevention.
9. Whatever happened to the principle of common sense?
10. You can't learn if your stomach is doing your thinking for you.
11. SDFSC cannot be effective alone; it must be an entire school and community effort.

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 5:15pm.

Monday, June 14, 2004: Closed Business Meeting, Members Only

Present per sign-in sheet: Fifty-nine individuals signed in as follows: Executive Committee (4), Governor's Office (14), SEA's (26), LEA's (5), Partners (9), Researcher (1)

The National Network provided a continental breakfast.

The meeting was convened at 8:35 by Susie Roberts and Denise Fitch.

Federal Legislative Update: Sue Thau and Meena Vagnier Sue reminded us that it has been a pretty rough year, but we have done well. She also reminded us of a statement by Hope Taft, "Without the tree, you have nothing to hang your ornaments on, and SDFSCA is the Christmas Tree". Sue and Meena also shared the following:

1. An Advisory Committee was to be formed to advise the Dept. of Education, SDFS office, however, this has not occurred.

2. The budget contained \$287 million. The House put \$50 million in while the Senate took \$24 million out. The President requested the cuts be put back in.
3. CADCA sent out an alert for folks to respond to their congressmen. A review of those that responded showed 230 individual letters with 670 responding through the CADCA web site. Sue stated that we need to have many more respond when the call goes out to support these federally funded programs.
4. Meena reminded folks to go to the hill and ask the folks about the drug issue. She reminded us that folks on the hill focus on what people report to them that they care about.
5. Sue noted that only about 37-40 states are using statewide surveys.
6. It is very important to educate your school officials, PTAs and PTSAs concerning the drug issue.
7. CADCA's new CD has been given to the folks on the hill.
8. Sue talked about the letter from Senator Byrd of West Virginia.
9. Meena said her goodbyes, as she will be leaving CADCA to attend law school in Ohio. The Network thanked her for her wonderful assistance over the years.

National Network Brochure: Julie Peterson

Julie wanted everyone to review the brochure and provide her with any corrections or input prior to it being printed.

Academic Achievement and Supportive Learning Environment: Mona Johnson talked about the link between academic achievement and a supportive learning environment.

Monday, PM, June 14, 2004: Open Meeting

Operation Military Kids Program: Darrin Allen

Darrin shared with us that there are students right in our backyard that community coalitions and prevention groups could come together to support while their parent(s) are deployed. He shared that there is a lack of educators' awareness on this issue. Many students are living with extended families, and there is sometimes no communication with those who are deployed. The guiding principles behind this program are: programs must be replicable and sustainable with the youth's best interest paramount.

The program's components are: building infrastructure support, implementing educational program options, providing training on supporting children of those who are deployed, and developing a speakers bureau to talk to youth on what is going on. He also noted that there are fifteen states that are doing this program. Darrin passed out a brochure to all in attendance to review his program.

Mona shared how folks in the state of Washington are implementing the program. Darrin can be reached at Darrin.Allen@hqda.army.mil for those interested in contacting him for more information.

Keynote Speaker: Deborah Price, Deputy Under Secretary, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

Deborah Price was introduced by Denise Fitch.

Deputy Under Secretary Price shared with us that she has been on the hill for 16 years, and joined the Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools in February 2004. She talked of her role in the Federal Student Loan program. Deborah pointed out that students must feel that they are safe in order for schools to achieve and that the SDFS programs must happen first in order for kids to learn. She noted that problems such as gangs, drugs and all acts of violence must go away in order for learning to occur and children to grow. She mentioned that there is a lack of funds. We spend about \$8 per student for drug and violence prevention and yet there are still many other areas of concern such as terrorism and the need to improve physical education.

Small Group Discussions and Regional Technical Assistance from USDE Title Project Officers: Susie Roberts introduced the USDE team members.

Attendees welcomed Debbie Rudy and the Regional Representatives.

The USDE team members addressed the group on how we were collecting data to show that the programs are effective. They asked the questions: how are we collecting data and are we making sure the data is constructive? David Quinlan also noted that he would send out to the National Network information from his handout to be placed on the NNW website.

There was a brief discussion concerning science-based programs and waivers for school systems who have homegrown programs that have proven to be effective. An outline of the Uniform Management Information Reporting System (UMIRS) was passed out and discussions followed.

The attendees then broke up into regional groups to meet with their Regional representatives. After the regional meetings, the group reconvened and began the process of preparing questions for William Modzeleski, who was to address the Network on Tuesday morning. There were 19 questions selected.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm

Tuesday AM: June 15, 2004: Discussion with the Department of Education

Present per sign-in sheet: Fifty-three individuals signed in as follows: Executive Committee (4), Governor's Office (11), SEA's (26), LEA's (5), Partners (7)

The National Network provided a Continental breakfast.

Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, U.S. Department of Education –
William Modzeleski, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary

Attendees welcomed William Modzeleski and Robert Alexander, as well as several of the project officers from the office. Bill shared the following key points and answered questions prepared by the Network.

1. Bill thanked all attendees for the great job that they do everyday and asked that we pass that on to our folks in the field.
2. He introduced Erin Segal from Liberty College in Texas who is working at the Department as an intern.
3. He discussed the Homeland Security Plan and how schools are being looked at as a security concern.
4. He stated that the '06 budget is currently being worked on and should be released in February '05.
5. Bill noted that some states will be getting letters asking them for their data regarding the Gun Free Schools Act.
6. He also pointed out that States will lose unobligated funds if not spent.
7. He noted that we need to consider merging ideas of research to design a program that is affordable by all. These programs must be practical.
8. 50% of school systems receive less than \$10,000 of SDFS funding.

Questions:

1. Will there be a SDFS Conference? **Answer:** Yes, there will be a SDFS Conference in 2005. I have people working on the location and dates and we will get that information out to you all as soon as possible.
2. How much money is there in the drug-testing program? **Answer:** There is \$25 million set aside for drug testing in the '05 budget.
3. What is happening with the OMB rating and is it changing? How will it be updated? **Answer:** OMB is working with us in improving the way our program is rated.
4. Is there any definition/criteria for the Research/Evidence-based program? **Answer:** All programs must have baseline data in order to compare and prove they are effective. Science-based programs have already established that fact while other programs wanting to meet that standard must show evidence of making a difference.
5. What is the status of the Advisory Committee? **Answer:** I would be glad to work with members of the network and those selected as part of an advisory committee. I look forward to establishing a committee of this kind soon.
6. Do you need a waiver and how long is the waiver good for, with activities that are not science based? **Answer:** Programs that are not science based do require a waiver. This is done at the state level. The waiver is good only for that particular period. I hope those programs are looking at measurement to see if they are effective and make a difference and then use this data to get qualified as a research/evidence-based program.

Debbie Rudy addressed the attendees and made several points that answered several of the questions. Her statements were:

1. Performance Measures are here to stay.

2. There will be no discussion on the Re-Authorization Act until the election is over.
3. They are looking at several good data sets.

Mr. Modzeleski once again thanked the network for allowing him and his staff to have time on the Network agenda to give the attendees an update.

Mary Ann Solberg, Assistant Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy

Mary Ann thanked the committee for asking her to come and share her thoughts with the attendees. Mary Ann shared the following observations:

1. We must prevent drug use before it starts.
2. We must treat it where treatment is needed.
3. Denial is the reason we don't have enough adolescents in treatment.
4. Media Campaign has changed some parents behavior.
5. Media Campaign is working with disk jockeys to pass on prevention messages.
6. There is a connection between terrorism and the drug trade.
7. Kids want parents to set limits.
8. We need teachers to be teachers and parents to be parents.
9. Marijuana is the number one illegal drug used by adolescents followed by prescription drugs.
10. Some lollipops are now containing medication.
11. Make sure you count the number of pills you get from the pharmacy.
12. Drug testing should always be confidential and never punitive.
13. Test scores go up as drug use goes down in the schools.
14. Kids need consistency in messages from every section of the community.
15. Kids will rise to the level of expectation expected of them.
16. You cannot change youth behavior until you change adult behavior.
17. We need multiple strategies over multiple sectors.
18. Inform your community that your programs work.
19. Share the data.

The Executive Committee had attendees write suggestions on the sheets that hung on the wall for topics for the next meeting, and thoughts about the hotel and the meeting format.

The Executive Committee will try to arrange for the National Network meeting to be held a few days before the CADCA Conference.

At the time of the close of the National Network meeting, there was no date or hotel set. The committee assured the attendees, that they would work very hard to have the meeting in conjunction with the CADCA Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence Jones
Secretary, NNSDFSC