

Waterbury Prevention Policy Board

40 Developmental Asset Re-Test Committee

Thursday, December 17th, 2009

10:00a.m.-10:55a.m.

Minutes

Present: Shannon Longo, Jim O'Rourke, Louise Allen Brown, Jennifer DeWitt, Sandy Porteus

Absent: Kelly Cronin (Late)

Staff: Nicole Porto

Introductions: Jim O'Rourke, chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00am.

Re-Test Discussion:

The following points arose from a lengthy discussion regarding the 40 Developmental Asset Re-Test:

- Louise Allen Brown noted that we need approval from the Board of Education at the January 19th meeting, because materials for the survey need to be ordered by February 1st. We cannot administer the test in March, because of the CMT's. April is the best time to re-administer the test.
- Louise noted that when we present to the BOE, we need to provide them with a basic description of what the survey is (all the details) and what it is not. Louise also felt that we need to address amongst ourselves before going to the Board the retention of the documents and what kind of reports do we want to release.
- Louise noted that the records from the 2007 survey are currently in her office. They are in Louise Brown's office as the chair of the Waterbury Prevention Policy Board and not in her office as an employee of the Waterbury Public Schools. Louise raised the question as to whether or not we want to let the Clerk hold the records in their office.
- Louise noted that the Wednesday before the BOE meeting, we need to have a packet to the Clerk so it can then be forwarded to the Board members on Friday for review.
- Sandy Porteus noted that the questions regarding sex/drugs are not appropriate questions to ask on a survey- according to the BOE.
- Louise noted that she does not recall ever providing the City with the full report and they were only given the Executive Summary. Jennifer DeWitt felt that the BOE should have at least one copy of everything, seeing that we administered the survey in the school system.
- Louise questioned if we should request permission to re-administer the survey every three years.
- Sandy Porteus felt that she expects the results of the 2010 survey to be worse than the 2007 survey due to the economy. Jennifer suggested we get something from the Search Institute stating that on a National level, due to the economy, results may be worse. Jennifer also felt

that it was important to reiterate to the BOE that we are not surveying the Waterbury schools, but the youth within the schools who represent our community.

- Jim O'Rourke asked "what exactly do we need in the packet that we are giving to Board members?" The following items were established:
 - Executive Summary (PPB History, success of the survey, fears, loss of funding, economy, opt-in policy, history of where we are now)
 - Overview of Process (funding, 1100 participants in grades 6, 9, & 12)
 - Get approval from PPB Executive committee on the packet we will provide to BOE
 - FAQ's (concerns that were brought up in other communities)
 - Letter of Support (everyone signs one letter which indicates how they have relied on the survey in the past and why it's so crucial now)
- Jim also asked "who will be presenting to the BOE on the 19th?"
 - Jennifer DeWitt
 - Jim O'Rourke
 - Louise Allen Brown (will be there for support)
- Louise reviewed the reports which were purchased for the 2007 survey:
 - Grade Report for grades 6 and 9
 - School Report for 9 schools
 - Race Report
 - Gender Report
- Louise stated an approximate total for the 2010 survey:
 - \$10,670 (Does not include consultant fee which was used the last time for analysis of sub reports)

Establish Follow up Items:

- Jennifer DeWitt will confirm with the Clerk that the meeting is on January 19th and will be asked to be put on the agenda
- Jim, Jennifer, Louise and Nicole will work on packet that will be distributed to Board members
- Packet will go to PPB Executive Committee for approval

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:55 a.m.