

Education, Policy and Programs Working Group
Thursday, February 28, 2008
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Host Location:
Peel Board of Education
South West of Matheson Road and Hurontario St.,
Mississauga, ON

Minutes

Present:

Anne Burke-Gauthier – *Community Member*, Bill Stewart – *Peel Regional Police*, David Jull – *Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board*, Valerie Arnold Judge – *Peel District School Board*, Wendy Bodsworth – *Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board*, Ursula Keuper-Bennett – *Mississauga Watch*, Sandra Payne – *Associated Youth Services of Peel*, Adrian Adore – *Peel Regional Police*, Dorothy Fetterly – *Peel Health*

Regrets:

Gayle Woods – Youth Justice Services; Jo-Anne Cripps – Ontario Works; Linda Andrews – Peel Health; Sheila Wilson – City of Mississauga Recreation & Parks;

1. Additions to the Agenda

No additions to agenda.

2. Re-cap Jan 31, 2008 meeting minutes & adopt.

Minutes approved.

3. Steering Committee Update - Dorothy Fetterly

- Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network (PYVPN) is now the new name for the Peel Youth Violence Prevention Initiative.
- Program Project Specialist hired – Sheila Datta. Some of the items Sheila will be helping us with are evaluations, baseline research, and writing of the website content.
- Planning day for the Working Groups and Steering Committee. We will “celebrate” what we have accomplished in the first year and also focus on 3-year plans. This will be June 17th – details to follow.
- Youth – take back their community - Friends on Face Book.
- Dorothy will be attending the YMCA Youth Crime Prevention conference – they are investing in Youth Violence Prevention.
- Year in review - Accomplishments:
 - Youth Charter;

- 1 year Work Plan's for all groups
- Establishment of Web Site;
- Agencies networking together and having a better understanding of what everyone is doing in Peel.
- Fall – all chairs to the Steering Committee for a meeting.

Announcements:

- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board: providing training day for parents who are leaders of parent community (October 25, 2008) and Market Place in the spring (March 28 or April 4, 2009).
- Divina Mitrovic is the new administrative assistant starting with Youth Violence Prevention on March 17, 2008.
- March 25-29, 2008 Dorothy will be in Miami to attend Youth Violence Prevention Conference.
- Roots of Youth Violence: please complete survey at: <http://www.rootsofyouthviolence.on.ca>

4. Bill 212 – implications for schools and community partners - (Wendy Bodsworth)

- All groups at the school have had an in-service about Bill 212. Revisions being looked at that pertain to school safety and code of conduct. Smallest infraction to the biggest from pro-active and manage to school removal are embedded in the curriculum.
- There are moral and legal barriers. Follow due process. Challenging point has been to take and meet with lawyers and interpret in a way that will be meaningful.
 - Role – certain things are going to be more important to you meaningful and executive something that has been available. In 3 weeks time, our website booklet form will be available.
 - Guide to suspension and expulsion, Ministry is clear about the consequences.
- Student cannot be punished twice for the same thing = double jeopardy.
- 1 to 5 days: cannot be without schoolwork. The School is responsible for providing homework and the onus is on the parents to see that it is completed.
- More than 5 days: Province is to provide programs for students, both academic and non-academic. Student Action Plan – onus and burden of work.
- Peel new direction Bill 212 – implemented to reduce suspension/expulsion, 0 tolerance for offences and reengagement with parent and student.
- Students invited to hearing, parent and student sign off. Parent provides transportation.
- Each case examined; look at situation the child is in i.e. environmental, bully illness, special illness.

- All suspensions are appealable.
- Looks at family background.

5. Sub-Committee updates:

- 1st Symposium – Agency Fair at Square One Mississauga – by Community Station. Group figured people are at the malls on a Saturday and so that's where they want to hold the symposiums

Website & Agenda Committee

- Have discussed an outline and what we want for our web page - must be one in English and one in French.
- Will be meeting with some youth to start working on the website
- Web site: will have three sections one for Kids/Youth, Parents and Educators
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6. Next Meeting

Thursday March 27th meeting cancelled

Thursday April 24th, 2008