

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes were distributed, read. Minutes approved.

Consolidated Task Force: Not made a lot of progress. Main format is committee's report out. No firm direction, leaves all the groups exploring but not being as focused as they can be. In doing that, overlap in committees. Structures was discussing transportation, was more student needs. Biggest question was deadheading. Rare that a district has it's own busses. Most use contract bus services.

Time Programs: Years ago state gave districts money, at that time Kindergarten wasn't a requirement. They had jump start programs in August, transition like bringing in your 6th graders before rest of schools, etc. Various things tried, continued or abandoned, all boils down to money situation. About 2 years ago there was a SAIL committee, Rep. Longhurst very much in favor and put in legislature. Initial legislation very expensive and didn't pass.

Susan H. just attended a meeting for after school network. How to coordinate programs, identify what type of PD they will need to proceed with programs. Not all programs are academic. Some kids need something other than academics. Is there a hybrid, do we mix and match. Do we have someone on hand to help with homework and then switch over to basketball, etc.

Please look over the SAIL report for about 10 minutes and we will discuss ideas.

Susan B. handed out Extended Time Programs worksheet and gave the group time to complete.

Lets start with things that

Square with your thinking: After school activities, even it can prevent loss. Benefits of program as well as the need. Programs provide safe haven for kids where they may not have it. Provides social skills they are not learning anywhere else. Become interested in activities that keep them in school. 73% DE Parents thinks if they have something to do after school, and care for them. They are more likely not to get in trouble. 40% of DE parents looking for opportunity. If parents have to pay for it, it is a preventative. Not all areas have Boys/Girls Clubs or Y's.

Something keeps rolling around: Why would a student who struggles academically want to go to an after school program and do more work. Maybe if it is a lego club, etc. Incorporate something "fun" that is also a learning. Pathways in HS Animal Science, Woodbridge shared. Manufacturing program, Woodbridge share with Seaford through Del Tech. Special opportunities for ELL after school? How would we peek their interest and getting them learning the language? We know these programs work, especially for kids in poverty. Why aren't we putting money towards kids in poverty? Match tax option, may be some money in districts. Doesn't do what we need it to do in Sussex (Woodbridge). Who is going to staff these positions? Teachers will staff them. Districts pay. Some districts don't have the local funds. Districts can apply for the Opportunity Grant. Should be a private/public partnership. We may want to recommend a partnership, if we run out of money, we are in a crisis and what gets cut. If you have businesses that want to work with it, may be soluble. Governor's proposed budget a \$6M ask for Opportunity grants. Non-competitive this year, automatically qualify, if you have 60% poverty or ___ EL's, quality for the grant.

Top 20% of earner families, 7 x spent on enrichments then those in poverty.

Any other key points to remember? What is whole thing with 21st Century?

Cost of these programs as opposed to cost of incarceration. When these kids don't get fortified with what they need at a younger age, they could end up in prison. \$42,000 per inmate a year.

Academic & Student's Needs: From what you have learned tonight, want to make any type of recommendation.

Recommendations:

Connect after school programs with pathways. Younger vs older students. How to have engaging programs for older students both afterschool summer. Nutrition, academic support. Most schools give free breakfast/lunch for poverty and also snacks for after school programs. All part of federal school lunch program. Susan, turn into a recommendation.

Natalie/Robert: Programs after school that interest kids and cost little to no money. Need a teacher that has some knowledge, ie dance, music. Don't realize using academics but want to keep going. Something they can participate in. Also, work with custodian staff to work around building (may have liability issues). Robert assigned.

Heath/Paullette – biggest detractors when you get to transportation costs. Better job of looking at some community based programs, getting out to satellite sites like Coverdale, Walkers Mill who have community centers. Better job in that area, only place can happen in our buildings when that's not true,, they can take place in community centers. We can take transportation costs totally out of it. Because of some of the areas where these programs are in, you get some of these groups, will come to school to do it but not willing to go to certain areas to do it.

Afterschool program, have pod stops where parents can get to them easier than going to the school.

Transportation Local expense.

Susan handed out sheet that had recommendations. Please look at them and see if have captured a lot of recommendations from over past months meetings.

Is there a way to take transportation out of it? It depends, whether or not they are at home, have a car, in rural areas, not easy to get kids from a to b, especially the little ones. Equity issues come up.

Where are post-secondary's on the first recommendation? Slower moving. Wilmington U has a certificate program on this. It's a certificate program not degree program.

Next meeting March 12th, location in Smyrna.