

Parent Advisory Council Meeting Notes
08/20/2009

Members present: In person - Michelle, Julie C., Chris (project director)
Teleconferencing – Heather, Rebecca

Let the record reflect an acceptance of the 8/06/09 minutes.

Chris spoke about the National Federation of Families' commitment to have family representation at all levels (e.g. local, state, federal, etc.). A strong emphasis is being placed on reducing the fragmentation of local level services/programming (e.g. trainings, services, etc.). Creation of a local chapter of the Federation of Families has the potential to influence local, state and federal policy making.

Review federation of families materials (Chris(project director)and Michelle)

- a. Membership
- b. Conference
- c. Who can go. 1) Active PAC members 2) Network Parent 3) A PAC member that has never gone to the convention 5) The attendee must be committed to supporting and founding the local chapter of the Federation of Families. Sue and Rebecca were nominated to attend the Federation of Families conference in Washington D.C.
- d. How should we decide who goes. Michelle will draft some language outlining the criteria for deciding who will be attending the Federation of Families conference. The basic language will be that: 1. First choice for this conference will go to active Pac members. 2. Pac members that have not gone to the federation conference in the past will be given preference. 3. Conference participants will be actively recruiting local PAC members and parent network members. 4. Participants will have a commitment to founding the central Minnesota Federation of Families Chapter.
- e. What are the purposes. 1) Network with other people to see how they formed local chapters. 2) Each individual that

attends should participate in a variety of sessions and report back to the PAC.

2. Discuss family connection nights logistics. Review to do sheet from previous meeting.
 - a. Review school introduction sheet. Michelle introduced her first draft of the letter to schools. She will revise her letter and present it to the group for feedback at the next meeting.
 - b. Discuss Julie Carpenters material on schools being required to involve parents. Topic Tabled

3. Information session on Wraparound. Stars in Monticello, Wednesday August 26 from 6:30 to 8:00. Rebecca is calling in.

4. Thank you to Heather and Julie C. for the reviewing the RFPs for the school based funds. It was recommended to the governance board that LSS's proposal be accepted and funded.

5. The *What is STARs booklet* was briefly discussed. PAC members should review the booklet and either e-mail/fax Michelle comments or provide comments at the next PAC meeting.

6. Training on leadership skills for parents:
 - a. Macmh – Another round of training is needed.
 - b. Susan B. training – Trainer with Vroon Vandenberg a nationally recognized Wrap Around trainers. She does leadership training for parents. Train the trainer philosophy.
 - c. Other – a systematic training provided by PAC members who have had training (e.g. Federation of Families)
 - d. Julie C. discussed the possibility of strength-based training.
 - e. Michelle will talk to MACMH about the training the PAC on how to mobilize parents and push forward a family driven organization.