

MDI Tomorrow – Subcommittee on Youth

Notes from the Meeting, Thursday, May 2

Attending: Susan Buell, Ann Marie Hart, Mary Lyons, Ann Luther, Doug Michael, Theresa Wittenberg

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 8, 9:30 a.m.
Superintendent's Conference Room, MDI High School

Issues/Opportunities:

- Safety
 - Physical
 - Automobile
 - Emotional
 - Psychological
- Transportation
 - Access to activities w/o a personal car
 - Sidewalks
 - Bikes
 - School location
- Drinking & driving
- Boredom & availability of activities
- Experimenting with drugs and alcohol
- Obesity, exercise, & diet
- Infrastructure for sustaining solutions:
 - Youth Council
 - Engage adults
 - Involve youth
- Search Institute's research = 40 Developmental Assets
- Substance use and abuse
- "At risk" youth
- Engage kids left behind
 - Places to hang-out safely
 - Draw in the "quiet kids"
 - Draw in kids who don't feel they fit in
- Place to hang out, club atmosphere
- Skateboard park
- After school programs, especially for younger kids
- Intramural sports
- Community philosophy on sports and sport participation
- Space, especially gym space (access to Pemetec School gym?)
- 21st Century Grant for turning schools into community centers (Ellsworth)

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Next Steps

- Large group meeting
 - Offer information
 - Could someone from MDI High School present high-level findings from their recent student survey?
 - Marty could present items from two youth “focus groups”
 - Other presenters?
 - Identify and prioritize issues
 - Solicit involvement for further analysis on issues
 - Foster and channel immediate action on concrete items where there is clear consensus (e.g. skateboard park)
- Target date = June 6, MDI High School auditorium with breakout rooms. Jen(n?) will confirm availability of MDI HS facility for that date.
- Develop list of names. Committee members will forward to Ann for collation names associated with the following organizations:
 - Law enforcement
 - School administration
 - Alternative schools
 - Union 98
 - Town government
 - Rotary/Kiwanis/Lions
 - Ministers
 - Parents, PTO’s
 - Drug counselors
 - Health care, clinics
 - Camp Beech Cliff
 - YMCA, YWCA
 - Day care providers
 - Co-operative extension
 - Big Brothers/Big Sisters
 - Athletic directors
 - Theatre/music directors
 - COA
 - Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts
 - MDIT Transportation Committee
 - Libraries
 - MDI Bicycle Coalition
 - Elected state representatives
 - Parents Are Teachers, Too
 - Kids
- For the next committee meeting:
 - Agenda/format of large group meeting
 - Notification plan
 - Final list of names