



Barrington's Substance Abuse Task Force Drug Free Community Coalition

Barrington High School
200 Lincoln Avenue
December 7, 2015 at 8:45 am.

Goals of Meeting: Committee plans and actions

Minutes

Presentation Jos Melo, BHS School Resource Officer

Josh gave an update on the SRO position at the high school. Things he noted were:

- 2 threat situations to school, dealt with swiftly
- Interaction with kids is getting better
- He will be attending a lot of winter sports games to get people more comfortable with his presence
- More mental health issues than anticipated
- School has disabled yik yak
- A lot of sexting/solicitation of photos
- Looking forward, he will be at orientations prior to next school year
- Police department has new Facebook & Twitter accounts

State level update

Tobacco grant – Received word that the Tobacco grant is on the way and the state is hoping for a January 1st start date.

DOT/OHS-received grant and purchase order for impaired driving, specific to marijuana and texting. We had put in for the grant back in May and hadn't heard anything, so were not aware we would be receiving this.

OSPA – Kristen Westmoreland and a small group are putting the final touches on a white paper on the public health impact of marijuana that will go to the Department of Health. There was an excellent presentation of drug use on the brain that we hope to be able to bring to this group at a future date.

Tobacco Free Rhode Island-passed out their flyer on free program for quitting tobacco.

Committee Reports

Parenting – A big thank you to Martha Donovan and 6 BAY youth who helped at the town's tree lighting festival. They played a giant Jenga game. Each game piece had a different protective factor on its sides and as the game was played there was conversation about how our lives can become off balanced as we take away these factors. An information sheet was handed out to all parents. There was an active steady flow of young families. The K-12 newsletter is being worked on for a print date of mid-January. January Arts Alive season starts with multiple opportunities for the BAY Team to have a table. We are seeking PTO representatives at each school. Heidi Fanion is getting confirmation on 3 schools. Bayside YMCA has a mobile van that can be utilized and in January, Midnight Mayhem will be start at the Y every other Friday. Saturdays are also available for other opportunities after 6pm. We are grateful for the partnership we are forming with the YMCA. Have discussed stress and mindfulness and how we can incorporate this into the lives of students. We hope to set up meetings with the school principals after the first of the year. We will be viewing the Camp iAm video and discussing how to best use it in trainings that Dena Davis will conduct. The committee is chaired by Martha Donovan msdonovan19@gmail.com. **The next meeting is 1/13/16 at 4:30 pm at the YMCA**

Marijuana – The next tool kit card should be in mailboxes this week. Discussed e-cig policies in schools as well as marijuana clothing/jewelry. We will be developing a letter of support for the school to adhere to the policies. Police would test anything the school gives them. Joanne Royley will be scheduling the first meeting with John Morello and youth for some time in January to work on the comic books. We discussed running a DVD series at the library; we have several good DVDs on edibles, vaping, and marijuana. The question was raised on whether we should buy a set to leave at the library. We also discussed videotaping different experts on certain topics that could be shown since people aren't always available. We will write to copyright company to inquire about a way to post a video on Facebook. There was conversation about transitioning kids out of high school, whether to college or other life direction. Colleges are saying kids can't cope, problem solve, and there are increased numbers of helicopter and bulldozer parents. The school improvement team is looking at ways to reduce stress; they are looking at a program called "Challenge Success". **The next meeting is 1/5/16 at 10:00 am in the BAY Team conference room.** This committee is chaired by Susan Freel safreel1120@gmail.com.

Policy/RX – **Next meeting is 12/14/15 at 10:00 am in the conference room at the police station.** Anyone interested is invited to attend. It is chaired by Claudia Gordon Cjgordon3@aol.com

BAY Youth/CHOICE-BAY Youth is a small, hard working group. They want to re-do the old billboard in the parking lot at the high school, possibly using a comic book character that gets produced when they meet with John Morello. They would like to add a second billboard. This may be funded or partially funded with the use of the OHS grant. We will be able to better assess after meeting with Bill DeWitt.

BCA – They will be hosting ThinkFast 12/8/15. There was conversation about a social justice conference and starting a group on accountability. Also, college freshman on videotape as a speaker for those who haven't graduated.

Any Other Business:

1. Chief LaCross suggested education for the high school on sexting-the laws, negative consequences, tips for schools and in the paper.
2. It was mentioned that the Red Cross & American Heart Association have new guidelines for cardiac arrests, including nasal spray.
3. Also mentioned were the presence of "code words" in the obituaries for someone who passes away that has struggled with addiction.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday 1/4/16 at 8:45am in the BHS Library