

**THE ARLINGTON**  
**PARTNERSHIP**  
**FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

**February 22, 2017**

**Notes**

**Attendance:** John Andelin, Michael Brown, Bart Devon, Alicia Guajardo, Judy Hadden, Linda Henderson, Anne O'Brien, Anne Vor der Bruegge, Rachel Harlan, Kevin Clements, Susan Noack, Sam Stebbins, Rick Strobach, Brenda Wilks, Kim Durand, Siobhan Grayson, Rebecca Hjelm, Michael Swisher, Mary Wulf.

**Early Childhood Update – Anne O'Brien**

The Early Childhood Committee (ECC) met on February 16<sup>th</sup> with a well-attended meeting. Anne shared the information from County Board member Katie Cristol who is very interested in the issues of child care, more specifically, affordability and access, in Arlington.

Katie shared in an e-mail that there will be separate element on childcare in the Draft Budget - a great thing for making progress on the overall issue, as well as making it easy for the committee and the full APCYF to review and share thoughts.

The ECC meeting in March will focus on this and will keep the full APCYF informed.

In addition to that, participants at the ECC shared information on what they're doing and seeing with their parents/providers. We discussed child care subsidies, number of seats overall, access and space vs. quality of child care, etc. There seemed to be two strands – one that is interested in space, facilities and programs and the other on parenting skills. There were very few community members at the meeting, so we still need to work to get their voices.

In March, ECC will work on its mission/goal.

**Comments:**

- We heard about programs and services for about 7,000 kids, but Arlington has many more than that; where are those kids?
- We are in a good place with two champions: Katie and Mary Hynes. Mary Hynes would like to focus on the supply, or lack-thereof. We should seize the opportunity!
- Space, Access and Affordability are the keys.

LINK to ARLNOW Article on Child Care: <https://www.arlnow.com/2017/02/21/lack-of-child-care-options-a-concern-for-arlington-county/>

**Parent Chats – Michael Swisher**

Michael shared information on "Week of Sharing Wisdom" March 18-26, 2017

There is a flier attached. We have space and facilitators in the works and it is coming together. We really want this to be an opportunity for parents to talk with other parents – to value their strengths and gain knowledge from each other. The website will also have additional information: <https://apcyf.arlingtonva.us/parent-chats/>.

**Data Update – Rebecca Hjelm**

Rebecca has been in this position as full-time for 6 months now. She has the ability to attend more meetings to make the data connections! The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) has consumed a tremendous amount of her time and most likely would not be ready by now if she

were still part-time., She also has been spending a good amount of time on survey development work for the future.

With regards to the YRBS Survey, the opt-out forms will go out this week and the surveys will be administered the week of March 27<sup>th</sup>. Anne V suggests that we work very hard to meet with teachers who are administering the survey in their classes on the messaging for the students; this makes a huge difference in the attitude of the students taking the survey. Siobhan Grayson shared that the TNB is working with Rebecca to have morning announcements for students, by students, so they hear about the importance from their peers. Brenda Wilks suggested we also meet with the counselors and also Debby DeFranco to enlist their help and support in emphasizing the importance of the survey to the teachers.

### **Substance Use Prevention – Linda Henderson and Anne Vor der Bruegge**

After further consideration and discussion with others in the County, we realize that this needs to stay in the forefront of the APCYF's work. Substance use by youth is very serious. We'll be considering it further during Planning and Development meetings to discuss how to move forward. All are encouraged to participate; the next meeting is on March 6, 2017 at 5:30pm in Room D.

Susan Noack reported that there have been LSD cases involving severe violence, as well as 8<sup>th</sup> graders considering heroin usage. The SROs have been hosting meetings for parents to attend. The one recently held at Yorktown was very good and included Narcotics Detectives to answer questions.

*[Many of us were also introduced to "The Dark Web" **The "dark web" is the encrypted network that exists between Tor servers and their clients, whereas the "deep web" is simply the content of databases and other web services that for one reason or another cannot be indexed by conventional search engines.]***

The TNB is talking about "Social Hosting" and how that may help address some issues.

We all recognized the importance of the data, especially around substance use, that we'll be collecting this spring through the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).

### **Whole Child Framework Exploration –Brenda Wilks and Sam Stebbins**

Brenda and Sam both presented some very helpful information on the Whole Child Framework. ASCD Video Overview will give you an idea of what the Framework is.

Brenda's Power Point describes the work the APS has done

Highlights:

- All schools must have a Whole Child Smart Goal that is measurable
- Co-Training opportunities for APS with DHS and others
- March 16<sup>th</sup> Whole Child Conference -- they have 185 signed up so far!

Sam's Power Point describes the potential of the model from the health stand point

Highlights:

- Policy, Process and Practice
- Oakridge Elementary has done some of this work as outlined in a 2015 report
- New measurement modules will be out soon
- How health effects learning – healthier kids do better on tests
- This model is not perfect, but it is a platform for discussion

### **Small Group Discussion & Report Out**

#### **Flip Chart Notes**

**APCYF Role:**

Engage parents  
Facilitate discussions  
Be a source of dissemination  
Support a common language and common understanding  
Get and hold the data  
Identify gaps  
Hold folks accountable  
Bring everyone together!

**Overall Thoughts:**

Change the language in the current model to be more community inclusive – broaden it.  
There needs to be a “Whole Child Czar” – someone who is the overseer of this work to avoid duplication among other groups/agencies and add community.  
A “Tri-Czar that includes a community member, county staff person and a school person  
This work is and must be about relationships  
The sub-committees of the Whole Child Advisory Council (assuming there will be some) MUST be more inclusive

**What’s missing?**

Faith Community  
Ages 0 – 5, early childhood  
Businesses  
Healthy Communities Action Team  
Workforce development  
How can we share data between systems?  
There is a disconnect between what happens in APS vs. what happens in the community.

**And a random aside:**

Assets committee could change to the Social Emotional Wellness Committee!

**Next Steps –**

Attached are several reports and materials for you to consider further. This will be discussed at the Planning and Development Committee on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to join.