

Douglas SAG meeting minutes May 9, 2007  
Douglas, AZ

Start time 3:30 p.m.

The minutes from the previous meeting were distributed, read and approved with the correction of the spelling of Sister Mary Kirkhoff's name.

STEPS grant will help by providing the funds to hire a part time SAG coordinator to lead the groups in Douglas, Willcox and Sierra Vista in order to increase community involvement in these areas.

Discussion was held on the categories gathered from the meeting held in April. There was agreement that the areas of focus needed to be narrowed and the SAG members should decide what their priority would be for the future. The schools and the wellness policy need to be ongoing in order to continue the success of the wellness policy in the community and the schools and to avoid any weakening of the policy.

The members present felt that communication seemed to be a large problem in Douglas. There is little parental involvement in the public schools. What is happening in Douglas is that information is not getting out to the parents and community members. There was discussion on how the local newspaper is short staffed and how difficult it is to get community announcements in the paper. In addition, there is a lack of information from the Parks and Recreation Department about what is being offered to young people and families in and around Douglas.

Elsa Obregon and Kathleen Gomez volunteered to go with Evelyn Whitmer to brainstorm with school district personnel about remedying the communication breakdown between the schools and the community/parents. Flyers/papers are given to the schools to send home with students but for different reasons the flyers/papers are not getting to the parents.

Elsa Obregon and Yolanda Caruso will try to meet with David Cota about how the Parks and Recreation Department distributes information to the community. They will inquire about how and to whom information is sent as well as from who information is obtained about the different programs and opportunities that are available in Douglas to see if we could be of assistance in getting this information out.

The suggestion was made that maybe there needs to be another means of communication in Douglas. The DECA program at the Douglas High School could possibly handle the publishing of a newsletter. Someone needs to talk to Randy Walker, who is Chair of the Wellness Committee, about publishing this newsletter. In addition, it was mentioned that the schools are using school time to promote candy sales that are taking place after school hours. This needs to be addressed with the Wellness Committee as well.

Evelyn will set up an appointment with the community leaders who have experience in getting community information out to the community. She will also set up an appointment with the Douglas Superintendent, Gail Zamar, to discuss school communication issues and the possibility of having a grant-funded student run means of communication after the meeting with the community leaders.

The CARE Fair will be held on July 25, Wednesday, at the Douglas High School Gym.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.