



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Draft EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 2, 2015

5:00 PM

Madison Municipal Building
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL-130

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Matthew J. Phair; Jessica Hankey; Anna Moffit; James Howard and Carousel Andrea S. Bayrd

Absent: 3 - Gloria Reyes; Shiva Bidar-Sielaff and Michele Ritt

Others Present: Mary O'Donnell, Tariq Saqqaf, Monica Host, Nora Jungbluth, and Molly Jones

Phair called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Hankey, seconded by Bayrd to approve the June 10, 2015 minutes.
Motion passed by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [35986](#) Chair's Report

Attachments: [Growing-Together-Learning-Together.pdf](#)

Phair had the group do brief introductions for the newest committee members. Also in attendance were Molly Jones and Nora Jungbluth both Social Work Interns with the Community Development Division.

Phair discussed the Wallace Report as suggested reading for the next meeting and the MOST discussion.

2. [39937](#) Presentation on UW Research of Joining Forces for Families-Peter Miller

Attachments: [JFF Research Summary](#)

Phair introduced Peter Miller and discussed how homelessness, high mobility, and poverty can affect children and the success of the JFF model in working to stabilize families and children.

Peter Miller is an Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin Madison, School of Education. Peter began his research in Pennsylvania in the Pittsburg area focusing on homeless shelters and working with school kids when they were outside of school. Pennsylvania created the Homeless Education Network which consists of schools, shelters, businesses, police and meets monthly to help families navigate the system.

While working with families in Madison Peter discovered that JFF was commonly mentioned as the way families navigate the system.

Three common themes that occur with a school specific focus are:

1. Understanding- Seeing families daily at their homes to understand their needs and the best way to assist.
2. Trust- Parents trust JFF workers and see them work with school and staff.
3. Access – Parents that have had negative school experiences in the past can have a negative view of schools. JFF workers can help parents to access schools and view them more positively.

For example, an overwhelmed parent that comes in and is simply trying to survive, their child's homework may not be a priority. JFF can work with schools and neighborhoods for registration and connect school staff to neighborhoods.

In Madison, JFF workers, school social workers, parent liaisons, student services team, and NRT members are all working to create a successful network to direct people to the necessary resources. This is an ongoing priority.

3. [39578](#)

Discussion: Review of committee charge/goals/priorities and preparation for conversation with Superintendent Cheatham

Phair discussed the dates for when Superintendent Cheatham is available. This is a good time to revisit the short term and long term initiatives of the Education Committee that were established when the Committee was created. Working with the MOST initiative has been successful and will continue to be a priority.

Members showed concern over a larger comprehensive list of priorities that can mask the true goals of the committee. Funding required for various programs also plays a role on the success of a priority.

This is an opportunity to collaborate and see various perspectives on both the long term and short term goals. Future meetings will involve how the Committee can best work together on common goals.

4. [39938](#)

Discussion of Meeting Times

Phair explained that Superintendent Cheatham is available Thursday, October 22nd or Thursday, October 29th. The group chose the October 29th date for the

next meeting time. The October 14th meeting has been cancelled. The Education Committee will meet again on November 4th after the meeting with Cheatham to review the discussion and consider the committee's priorities.

The Committee was notified the day after this meeting that Superintendent Cheatham is no longer available on 10/29. The October Committee meeting was then moved to 10/22.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hankey, seconded by Bayrd to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 pm.
Motion passed by voice vote.