



## Education Goal Team Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2011; 4:30 pm

Great Rivers Co-op

The Education Goal Team met and established committees to address three priorities for 2011. Each committee developed specific goals and milestones to be accomplished by the end of the year. The priorities are as follows:

### **Parental / community Engagement (Goal 5)**

By the end of the year our subcommittee will:

1. Establish a community leadership team comprised of business and civic leaders to regularly do site visits at public schools, with a focus on the middle and high schools.
2. Create a structured program for parental involvement in the schools, which may be the SAFE Team program.

To achieve these goals, the quarterly milestones are:

Q1:

- Set a committee meeting – date TBD
- Get other key players involved – each school has a parent coordinator

Q2:

- Research best practices in parent involvement
- Survey parents on what opportunities they would like for involvement
- Identify members of community leadership team
- Develop role of the community leadership team

Q3:

- Training for community leadership team: their role
- Parent training – how to be involved

Q4:

- Facilitate at least one visit by the community leadership team to each of the school districts
- Have a structured parent involvement program active within each district. These may involve a potential pilot at one school in each district. The specifics of this need to be clarified.

### **College-Going Goal (Goal 1)**

By the end of the year the subcommittee will:

Increase the number of Phillips County students enrolling in and completing post secondary education programs.

To achieve this goal, the quarterly milestones are:

Q1:

- Establish a committee to address fundraising for GRP
- Identify speakers to go to schools to discuss the GRP
- Establish a contact person at each district, grades 3 – 12, who will guide and support college recruiting/applications and committing to deadlines

Q2:

- Train a small group of individuals in applying for financial aid (to be available at the library, school sites, Boys & Girls Club)
- Great River Promise will visit each school once to talk to students regarding GRP scholarships
- Distribute promotional materials to Chamber

### **Dropout and Truancy Prevention (Goal 10)**

By the end of the year the subcommittee will:

Facilitate the existence of a dropout and truancy prevention strategy in each school district that ensure every unexcused absence is responded to in a consistent, appropriate way, resulting in reduced truancy and dropout rates.

To achieve this goal, the quarterly milestones are:

Q2:

- Identify best strategies for truancy and dropout prevention based on state and nationwide research of best practices
- Evaluated district practices, procedures, and policies to identify gaps (things that lead to the lack of consistent tracking of unexcused absences or other warning signs, as well as anything that is preventing a consistent, appropriate response/intervention at each level).
- Prepare recommendations for new district policies and procedures to be adopted

Q3:

- Secure approval for new policies following district procedures
- Work at the school building level to ensure compliance with new procedures and policies
- Ensure that outcomes are being tracked in a consistent way