Art Advisory Meeting
May 10, 2013
9:00 a.m. Carver Park Community Center (Melbourne PAL)

Present: Jackie Francisco, Debi Embry, Jeff Arnott, Cari Smith, Pablo Remonsellez, Marthenia Jones, Debra Witherspoon (PB Grandparent), Randi Reichman (PB Aunt), Amythist Velentia (PB student), Gregory Ross, Jonathan Day, Isa Hodge, Kay Lueck, Sharon Foster, Christina Weichel (RA parent), Maria Weichel (RA student), Robbie Calenda, Kathy Nanocchio, Lisa Lehmann, Gwen Warren, Nancy Heinz, Jean Kilgore, Sharon Cullum (PM parent), Avery Schmidt (PM student), Jeri Moore, Jason Sherburne, Diane Spina, Stacey Bedford

Enrollment vs. Attendance:
- Funding is based on attendance, therefore we need to have at least 70-75 enrolled & staying until 6:00.
- Coordinators were given a list of 6th graders who will be going on to Middle school. The Coordinators will need to fill those slots for next year.

DOE Deliverables:
- Cari requested pictures of completed activity.
- Partners were asked to get scores for all students as we are collecting data for input.
- We will start working on Rubrics next week.
- One of the problems Pro Health is having is that some of the students aren’t there on Mondays so they are having problems getting the fitness scores.
- Jackie offered a suggestion to have the Group Leaders get the measurements
- We need to gather the report cards from the Academic Liaisons.

Child/Parent Comments:
- Maria loved Marine Life, making sashes and her collection of badges. She said she learned things that she didn’t know before such as things about whale sharks. She played Wendy in their performance of Peter Pan.
- Christina, Maria’s mother, enjoyed the Art Explorers program. As a parent, I really appreciate that she is not sitting in front of the television. If there was a problem, it was addressed right away. Ms. Calenda is always there. My daughter has learned so much.
- Avery loved the hydroponics garden where we put plants in there and they started to grow. She was a pirate girl in their performance. One thing we did – we took vegetables that we grew and made catepillars out of them. We used peppers for eyes and ate them. Favorite subject: Reading
- Sharon, Avery’s mother, thanked Mrs. Kilgore for taking the time to tell her about the Art Explorers program. We had a tough year dealing with financial problems and a death in the family. Thanks to this program, my kids stayed on Honor roll. I will tell anyone how this program has helped my family. I hold this program in the highest regard.
Amythist loved National Parks and making the brochures but did not like gardening.

Diane Spina shared that LaShonda Woods from the DOE came and Amythist captured her attention. Ms. Woods made comments about Amythist and how impressed she was at how intelligent she is.

Debra, Amythist grandmother, shared that she has two other grandchildren in the program, one with special needs and Ms. Spina worked with them. Ms. Spina helps all of the children that walk through the door. You need more money so that you can do what you want to do with the program. One thing that needs to be changed is that the teacher should come to Ms. Spina and tell her that her granddaughter was having trouble in school.

**Enrollment:**
- We are working on EZ Reports and will have the ability to have a sign up sheet.

**RFA:**
- Jackie explained that they are in the process now of writing the grant and we have spent a lot of time choosing the curriculum.
- We need a list of equipment you may need for next year.

**Curriculum Preview:**
- Mindworks was on preview and comes as a 6 week kit which includes all the supplies needed (selected topics include Universe, People, Animals)
- The first 9 weeks we are creating our own curriculum, Museums, because until we have the Award Letter and the School Board approves the grant award, we cannot purchase anything.
- Debi explained that we want teachers to go outside of the lesson plan. It is OK to take longer on the lesson if the process of understanding, communication, teamwork, critical thinking are happening. We want the kids to have the opportunity to be engaged and offer more choices.

**Family Involvement:**
- The Math and Safe Technology Adult Workshops were a big hit.
- Stacey commented that Title I offered some of the same topics as we offered and it was difficult to get parents to come.
- Jackie offered to do a survey of which workshops to repeat next year and we can schedule them so that they don't conflict with Title I events.

**Grant Reports:**

**Roy Allen**
- Robbie reported that she implemented a social time this year that has worked out very well to transition students into the program after coming from the school setting.

**Palm Bay**
- Stacey thanked the Grants Office. “You really did listen to the issues we had.”
- Isa commented that as a teacher and to see what it has developed into has been exciting. “I see lots of smiling faces.”
- Diane stated that she was fortunate to go to the training for Project Based Learning and learned a lot. Liaisons please remind teachers that it is not a classroom setting but more hands-on.
Riviera
- Gwen reported that one of their activities was sewing. They made a National Parks pillow and their own costumes for the performance. The kids made up raps, did a plants project with the hydroponic garden.
- Couldn’t get on Google Docs and You Tube because of blocks – teachers were having same problems
- Contact Cari if there are issues at your site
- We had problems finding subs and teachers
- Nancy reported that they made it through the year. Gwen starts many projects and has helped a lot with supply expenditure decisions.

Port Malabar
- Jason reported that he has students coming down to his office telling him how much fun they are having. It is nice to have someone like Jean to depend on and she will be missed.
- Jean commented how supportive the AP and teachers have been.
- When we started the program, some were unsure. Lately, a lot of feedback from everyone is that the Art Explorers is the best thing that has ever happened to these kids. It has been rewarding in the end.

University Park
- Jeri thanked the partners for all that they do. Melbourne PAL helps the students so much.
- Jeri reported that thanks to Karen, things went well.

Partners Overview:

Brevard Cultural Alliance
- Pablo commented that the whole concept of Family Night is awesome. There were no problems and it was an enjoyable night.
- The Skype sessions were a huge success. It kept the students engaged for an hour. They were fascinated. We could get a list of Skype sites that the District has and it would be a great tie in with Museums.
- This year was the first year working in all of the sites. By the end of the year, it is working well. It is more refined and I am excited about next year. We finally have all of the pieces in place.
- Family Arts night – highlight of the year

Brevard Zoo
- Lisa reported that we had a lot more Science experiments, more hands-on activities, in three groups and we are asking for feedback. (feedback: worked well)
- We found that ½ hour works best

Pro Health
- Kay reported that Maegan is the replacement for Chris Crotty.
- Sharon commented that the biggest thing is the confidence that kids gain and they are proud of that. Ex: one kid did 130 push-ups and was so proud of himself
- We are seeing that kids want more sports blended activities
- (need scooters, 12 large at each site)
Melbourne Police Athletic League
- Marthenia gave kudos to everyone. She reported at their Police Athletic League meeting, the Assistant State Attorney General spoke so highly of the program. Her daughter is in the program and she loves it.
- We want to implement more hands-on activities next year. (showed the group door hangers and fish paper plates that the students made)

New Business
- Mr. Arnott stated that Adult Education is reaching out to the community and has started three classes at Endeavour and one at Cambridge. (ESOL and ABE classes are being offered, as well as providing an opportunity for adults to obtain their G.E.D.)
- Next year we plan to combine SACC and grant students to do enrichment activities.
- Teachers will have planning time before each unit (2-4 hrs. before the unit)
- Stacey suggested Flip Decks and Brain Jem for Pro Health to use
- Jonathan, Professor at UF, commented that kids have trouble thinking analytically. We help kids develop by asking them to make a list of observations, valid list of inferences, link observations with inferences and their own theories. We want to target 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.
- Greg, from Indian River County, works with Jonathan and commented that they help 4th graders to grasp the concepts and the light comes on and they gain more confidence.
- We are going to 4 days next year.