
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Title VII Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

May 13, 2014 Borough Building, Soldotna, AK

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Dorothy Waggoner	Nikiski North Star (telephonic)
	Brenda Trefon	Skyview (telephonic)
	Sally Ash	Nanwalek
	Rita Meganack	Pt. Graham
STAFF PRESENT:	Timothy Vlasak	Director, Federal Programs and K-12 Schools
	Sandra Miller	Assistant Director, Federal Programs
	Hannah Vincent	Title VII Support
	Maribeth Snell	Admin Secretary/Title I/Title VII/Migrant Ed.
	Michelle Thomason	Professional Development Coordinator
	Rachel Pioch	Tutor, Soldotna Middle School
	Mike Petersen	Project GRAD
PUBLIC PRESENT:	Michael Bernard	

I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Tim Vlasak opened the meeting with introductions of committee members, staff and public present at the meeting.

II. REPORT OF CURRENT TITLE VII TUTOR SUPPORT

Sandra Miller presented the Data Review of the tutoring services. Students are assessed three times a year to identify students and locations that would most benefit from tutoring and to track their progress. Title VII funded tutoring services now serve 86 students at the following nine locations.

Site

Susan B. English
Seward Middle
Soldotna Middle
Ninilchik
Kenai Middle
Nikiski Middle
Tebughna
Nanwalek
Pt. Graham

Assessment

The diagnostic tests used to assess students adjust according to each student's abilities in order to identify academic needs and progress. This year, served students in many grade levels showed significant increases. Out of the 86 students served, 56 had a greater than 70 increase, 30 displayed a negative and 16 underperformed. Testing also helps identify patterns. For example, last year Odyssey was purchased for Nanwalek, Pt. Graham, Susan B. English and Tebughna. Two schools that made the most use of the program, Nanwalek and Pt. Graham, showed the best increase in scores.

III. KPNYL

Sandy Miller began by reporting on the activities of the Native Youth Leadership site council at Susan B. English school lead by Vivian Rojas. Students have learned leadership skills through rappelling classes, kayaking, personal and water safety and community service. They have also created a system of peer teachers for the activities and have asked a community member to demonstrate traditional skills. Rachel

Spartan Pride and created school memorabilia to raise money for an activity. Next year they will do a project involving native plants, they will utilize the Dena'ina center to explore culturally relevant healthcare, and the students would like to take on the ambitious service project of getting a bike path built from Skyview to Soldotna.

Michael Bernard asked if the 2.0 grade point average requirement for KPNYL could be re-considered. Tim Vlasak explained that on-site Native Youth Leadership councils are open to all and that KPNYL could be considered the “varsity” level of the organization and targeted to older children that get to travel to different events around the state and serves as an incentive for younger students.

IV. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

The meeting was opened for questions and comments. Michael Bernard asked how Title VII tutoring works. Tim Vlasak explained that tutors are placed based on a school's percentage of Title VII students and the need reflected by assessment scores. Tutors prefer not to segregate students or pull them out of class. Some will be stationed in a classroom and available for help, while other schools will establish a study hall where the tutor is available. He added that targeting middle school students has shown to be the most effective as elementary students have needed support and high school students

V. PRIORITIES

Tim Vlasak reviewed the priorities set for the previous year and began the discussion for the coming year. It is the District's plan to go forward with the same priorities of tutoring, professional development for tutors and KPNYL and the NYL site councils.

VI. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Before the meeting closed, members in attendance offered some of their own ideas for the coming year. Sally Ash suggested that Title VII students have the opportunity to learn about the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and Michael Bernard and Brenda Trefon also asked for more culturally relevant activities. Dorothy Wagoner added that she was not aware of the tutoring available in some schools and asked that the program be more visible.

The meeting was adjourned and committee members and guests were thanked for their time and encouraged to contact the district with any questions.

VII. ADJOURN