

**Elementary/Middle School Age Committee**  
**Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.**  
**Willmar, MN**

**Present:** Eric Vogel, U of MN Extension Youth Work Institute  
Juliane Boraas, Shelter House Youth Advocate

Sally Belgum-Blad, 21st Century Grant Coordinator – PACT 4  
Tammie Knick, GFW School Social Worker  
Trisha Sheehan, U of MN Extension Educator

**Timeline:**

Video project: done by Jan. 1, 2009  
Introduce in schools during winter

Ask Danette to help with a marketing plan (Sally will check)

**Bluhm Presentation**

Target Bluhm for August/September:

- August 18, 2009

**Door Prize ideas:**

Computer / iPod door prizes  
Pizza party for your classroom  
Spa day / massage  
Gas cards  
Insurance companies to supply calendars, planners, etc. for all participants

**Plan follow-ups with parents in each community:**

Coordinate with Extension Family Development

**Youth Questions:**

Who makes you feel connected at school? Talk about what that person/those people do to make you feel connected.

What makes you feel happy about coming to school? ...like coming to school?

If connected...

- So, you like talking to your teachers. What is it you like about your teachers?
- So, you're feeling connected because of relationships with...

If disconnected...

- What makes you think they hate you?
- What would help you like school more?
- What could teachers/friends/support staff do to help you connect with school?
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Is there anyone else besides teachers and friends that make you feel/not feel like you belong? Who else makes you feel like you belong/don't belong?

What makes you feel connected to school?

What makes you feel disconnected to school?

What makes you like or dislike going to school?

What do you do that makes you feel connected?

What makes you feel you belong/welcome/like you have a place at school?

What makes you feel unwelcome/like you don't have a place at school?

How much school have you missed in the past month? Can you talk about why?

What's it like riding the bus?

What's it like going through the lunch line?

How does feeling disconnected affect the rest of your life?

How are your grades? Do you miss school very often? Are you involved in any after-school activities?

Can you name an adult who looks forward to seeing you when you come to school?

(If so) What does that adult do that make you feel welcomed?

*Mission Statement: We will use community resources to support the healthy development of elementary and middle school youth by promoting prevention and early intervention practices.*

**School staff Questions (staff includes teachers, administrators, janitors, cook, other support staff, etc):**

- Based on student responses, interview staff who make a difference.
- When using statistics, focus on state/national data to make the video usable beyond the PACT4 area.

How do you involve all students? How do you work to get kids connected?

What does a connected/disconnected student look like to you?

What does connectedness look like to you?

What things do you do in your classroom?

What does your school do to help students connect/feel welcome?

What makes school connectedness difficult to achieve?

What type of young person is the most difficult to get connected? What are their characteristics?

**Next Meeting: July 23, 10:00 a.m.**

Website to review for ideas:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGCJ46vyR9o> (college version)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-ZVCjfWf8> (K-12 version)