

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009; 8:30 am to 10:00 am**  
**Willmar, MN 56201**

**Present:** Bob Tews, Cedar Mt. School Superintendent  
Dave Oehrlein, ACGC Principal  
Debb Sheehan, PACT 4 Director  
Ed Downey, Evaluator-PACT 4  
Lance Bagstad, RCW School Superintendent  
Larry Schueler, ECHO Charter School Administrator

Mike Funk, BOLD School Superintendent  
Rick Clark, BL/H School Superintendent  
Rob Pederson, EV/W School Principal  
Sally Belgum-Blad, Grant Coordinator-PACT 4  
Sherri Broderius, ACGC Principal

**1. Introductions and Site Updates**

EV/W – the elementary hasn't been involved in programming to date, just the high school.

ACGC – would like to expand programming to include third and fourth grades. The high school has had a very good summer program in the past. Field trips for this summer are planned to area locations and will include science/history components.

BOLD – the site has gone through many trials and tribulations trying to get things going.

RCW – the site coordinator that they have had has resigned but the position has been filled by someone who has taught in the district, so she's already familiar with the program.

**2. Coordinator Report**

Sally distributed a summary of Year 2 Third Quarter Progress Reports. Challenges for sites included: staffing – maintaining a high level of energy and enthusiasm, finding licensed teachers who are interested in working after school and retaining them; staying within budget as programming heads into summer; and making programming appeal to older students. Successes included: having high school program participants go to elementary programs to help with homework, etc.; students that struggled with behavioral issues are now interacting with staff and peers in more positive ways; more participants will be retained at the end of the year; a new student who was feeling overwhelmed and would cry every night now is feeling successful and making friends due to attended 21<sup>st</sup> Century programming; a larger number of middle and high school students have attended this year than last year; there's lots of interest for upcoming summer activities; and family nights are well attended.

**3. Year Two Budget Review**

A copy of the final Year Two budget was distributed. It includes carryover dollars from Year One. We began Year Two with \$150,651 in carryover dollars. To date, there is \$39,707 remaining in these carryover funds. As we go into quarter four of Year Two, our balance is \$433,176.

Dollars need to be spent by July 31<sup>st</sup> of 2010, which is the end of Year Three. One possibility of using extra funds is getting more grades involved, but we cannot go under 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. A question was asked if these dollars can be used by schools to help pay the school's portion of the PACT 4 social worker that a district may have. Debb Sheehan answered that it is very clear from both a federal and state level that we cannot supplant funding through this grant to pay for services already in place. Sally noted that the possibility of continuation for two more years isn't based on how much money we spend, it's based on meeting the goals, requirements and objectives of the grant. One school asked if it could purchase Smart Boards with these funds, and Sheila Oehrlein from the Department of Education said "No".

**4. Site Participation and Year Three Budget Allocations**

a) Everyone has started programming, but BOLD school struggled last year and has again been struggling this year. There's been staff turnover with this program. Superintendent Funk accepted full responsibility for the problems that BOLD has had. He talked with both his elementary principal (Kip Lynk) and high school dean of students (John Double) about the value of the program. Kip believes in the value, John does not. Superintendent Funk believes that he has found a very competent person (Bonnie Wertish) to coordinate the program from this point forward, and that this program can piggy-back off their summer Jumpstart program to help it get going again. Lack of leadership and management of the program was the key piece in the failure of the last two years. Debb Sheehan asked what kind of leadership or supervision of programming will be occurring, since Dr. Funk is leaving and a new superintendent will be in place. Superintendent Funk said that Kip Lynk is the natural liaison, but he will make Tom Farrell, the new superintendent, aware of the program, and Kip can help him get acquainted after Dr. Funk leaves.

Sherri Broderius offered to help Mr. Farrell and mentor him into this grant and what it is all about. Ed Downey stated that we want to get the most “bang for the buck”, and that we have no intent to be punitive if we are getting assurances that BOLD will have quality program starting this summer. Dr. Downey said that this situation is not about money – it’s about trying to make sure that the State doesn’t come to us at the end of Year Three and state that we didn’t meet the program requirements and that we will not get a two-year extension. He said that the State “is not happy right now with no reporting from BOLD” school. Sheila Oehrlein said that as of right now, PACT 4 is not meeting their contractual obligations if every one of the fifteen sites is not meeting the goals and objectives of consistent, regular programming. Sally said that she is more concerned about the high school than the elementary right now. Other statements: “there are emotional ties here,” and “we worked hard as a group to get this grant, and we can’t afford to lose one school” and “should try to help each other hold on.” Bob Tews asked if there is enough money in the grant to increase Sally’s time, to help out more with supervision, especially with any new coordinators at districts. Dr. Downey said that when we wrote the grant we tried to keep the PACT 4 footprint as small as we could, but with the amount being allocated to PACT 4 and not being spent, we could check with Sheila to see if it’s possible, and have a discussion with Sally, to see if she’s interested in that as well. More discussion was held about the benefits/risks of keeping BOLD in the consortium. After all opinions were voiced and heard, **a motion was made by Rick Clark that BOLD be placed on probation until November 1<sup>st</sup>, with a probationary contract with terms and due dates spelled out and signed by both BOLD and PACT 4. If the terms of the probation are not met, then the issue would be brought back to this committee to proceed further. Lance Bagstad seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

- b) July 31<sup>st</sup> is the due date of the budget submission to the State. Because we have extra dollars available and Eden Valley/Watkins didn’t include grades three through six in the original grant, but would like to now, we propose allowing them to add those grades into their 21<sup>st</sup> Century programming. Sheila said that it would be okay, since the district is already part of the grant – doing this will also help increase our reporting numbers, which will look good on final reports. It’s also possible for districts to add an additional day of programming, if interested. Up to now, every district has been getting the same amount in each line item, but we don’t need to follow that guideline any more. EV/W has requested extra funds for increased transportation costs – other districts may need to do the same. Sally encouraged advisory committee members to go back to their districts, talk to their coordinators, and go over the budget to see what additional funds would be needed in each line item. Any changes need to be sent to Sally ASAP, as the due date is looming. **Motion made by Rick Clark to add EV/W grades three through six to the grant. Bob Tews seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

ACGC is interested in adding third and fourth grades, and according to Sheila, if there is money available, they can be added at any time because they already have an elementary site running programming. Sherri will figure out the costs and send to Sally to include in the year three budget.

#### 5. Request for Extra Funds Applications

ECHO Charter School would like to provide intentional evening programming to entice high school students to come to regular day programming. Sally asked if this committee would like to approve this request as an Extra Funds Application or just write it into the budget, as it would start in the fall. **Consensus was to write it into the budget and keep the Request Form for special, one-time events.**

#### 6. Other

Study Island is coming up for renewal – is it still being seen as a valuable tool and being used? **Consensus was to yes, renew the license, and expand to twelve months if there’s enough money in the budget for that.**

#### 7. Next Meeting

September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 am.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Shawna Steffen, PACT 4*