

Wethersfield Youth Advisory Board

Town Hall ~ 505 Silas Deane Highway ~ Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone: 860-721-2977

Meeting held: May 7, 2009

Present: Olivia Fortunato, Casey Lilley, Meg O'Connor, Nancy Stilwell, Donna Forrest, Colleen Budaj, , Mary Ellen Gregorio, Barbara Ruhe, Holly Dyjak

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM

NAME	EMAIL	MEMBER/ LIAISON	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED ABSENCE
Colleen Budaj/Cheri Moore SDMS	cbudaj@wethersfield.k12.ct.us cmoore@wethersfield.k12.ct.us	M	X		
Donna Forrest	dforrest@wethersfield.k12.ct.us	M	X		
Matthew Forrest Town Council	matthew.forrest@wethersfield.org	L			X
Olivia Fortunato <18	fortunatoo@aol.com	M-Chair	X		
Christopher Gillette <18		M		X	
Mary Ellen Gregorio	mgregorio@wethersfield.k12.ct.us	M	X		
Debra Hammer	dlh88@sbcglobal.net	M			X
Casey Lilley <18	cml4392@aol.com	M-V. Chair	X		
Norberto Mendez WPD	Norberto.mendez@wethersfieldct.com	M			X
Thomas Moore WHS	tmoore@wethersfield.k12.ct.us	M		X	
Meg O'Connor <18	meg_o'connor@missporters.org	M-Secty	X		
Barbara J. Ruhe	bjruhe@snet.net	M	X		
Nancy Stilwell DSYS	nancy.stilwell@wethersfieldct.com	L	X		
Kathi St. Onge K-8	kstonge@wethersfield.k12.ct.us	M			X
Holly Dyjak	hmdyjak@msn.com		X		
Jennifer Paquette	jenniferlpaquette@yahoo.com				X
VACANCY					

DSYS Update:

- ☞ A budget hearing took place, but no decisions were made
- ☞ The Shinn award will be awarded to a student with a commitment to service. The ceremony is Friday and is open to all.
- ☞ All summer adventure programs were cancelled.

YAB Update:

Community of Concern:

- ☞ Parents from WHS attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of Community of Concern
- ☞ Intended to pick up where DARE left off
- ☞ Kickoff week will take place in the fall. There will be events such as speakers, a talent show, or bands. Hopefully the Keane Foundation will host activities inspired by kids. The YAB was invited to sponsor and event for kickoff week.
- ☞ Community of concern has a website that all are encouraged to look at: www.communityofconcern.org
- ☞ The next meeting is May 18th
- ☞ Casey Lilley made a motion to donate \$500 to the Community of Concern. Barbara Ruhe seconded this motion. All voted in favor of donating the money.

One Book One School:

- ☞ Colleen Budaj spoke with 6th grade teachers about reading *Rings of My Tree*. Teachers seemed to be concerned with when they would have time to read the book and whether it would fit into the curriculum. Most seemed open to the idea, however.
- ☞ Discussed the book choice. *Rings of My Tree* may not be relatable to sixth graders, especially those with no knowledge of WWI.

Volunteer Recognition Night:

- ☞ The event went very well; over 150 people attended
- ☞ Mary Ellen Gregorio will write Mr. Fortunato a thank-you note.

New Business:

- ☞ Discussed possibility of getting half price lunches for students during finals week.
- ☞ June meeting will be a potluck meeting; everyone should bring something to eat!

Casey Lilley made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Colleen Budaj.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg O'Connor