**Needham Parents Care**

**Meeting Minutes- 11 9 17 **

**Attendees:**

Caryn Bello (Parent) [dr.carynbello@gmail.com](mailto:dr.carynbello@gmail.com)

Karen Shannon (Public Health Dept.) kshannon@needhamma.gov

Tanya Cherkerzian (Parent) cherkerzian@verizon.net

Karen Mullen (Needham Public Health Dept.) [kmullen@needhamma.gov](mailto:kmullen@needhamma.gov)

Abby Langmead (Parent) abby.langmead@apera.eu

Monica De Winter (Public Health Dept.) [mdewinter@needhamma.gov](mailto:mdewinter@needhamma.gov)

**Team Members unable to attend:**

Alyssa Kence (BIDN and Parent) akence@bidneedham.org

Claudia Pape (Parent) Claudia@claudia-pape.com

Jodie Gruen (Parent) jodiegruen@gmail.com

John Carr (Parent) [johncarr268@gmail.com](mailto:johncarr268@gmail.com)

Catherine Delano (Public Health Dept.) cdelano@needhamma.gov

Melissa Doyle (Parent) [doyle.melissa@gmail.com](mailto:doyle.melissa@gmail.com)

**Next Meeting: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 9:00AM**

**LOCATION: BIDN, 1040 GREAT PLAIN AVE, NEEDHAM, 2nd floor**

**For anyone unable to attend in person, you may dial in:**

**CALL IN TEL: 319-527-2700**

**Access Code: 149319**

**Discussion**:

**NPC Work Overview**: A discussion began to reassess NPC’s existing and proposed programs. As always, we need to determine our capacity for delivering new initiatives/programs both peoplepower-wise and financially.

**Monthly Parent Messaging**:

Parent Messaging Campaign has reached NHS, Pollard, High Rock and Broadmeadow school newsletters. We will continue efforts to reach all schools for November’s edition of Conflict Resolution with friends.

We discussed NPC members assisting with having articles published in their school PTC newsletters, but decided to wait until Tanya learns from presidents how to proceed.

Broader publicity: Tanya put in a plug for NPC at the recent PTC Presidents’ meeting with Superintendent Dan Gutekanst; she will send the monthly parent messages to the PTC presidents for publishing in their newsletters. Tanya wondering if we can publish them in the Hometown Weekly and Needham Times; Hometown Weekly will most likely publish, Needham Times does not have a track record for publishing pieces sent to them. Alyssa posts the articles on the NPC Facebook page.

**Parent Book Groups:**

**Dad Group(s):** Discussion explored ideas for drawing Dads to groups. One suggestion was to draw together Dads who know one another (ie, via sports teams) as they may be more open to discussion. Those present indicated a future Dad group needs a name that does not contain “book group.” Ideas are welcome.

Tanya suggested exploring NEF for funding of the John Badalament presentation. They may provide seed money for a one-time presentation of kicking off a Dad’s book group. Karen S. stated that she is awaiting word on whether there are grant funds available to help fund speaker fees. Karen will follow up with John Carr regarding speaker.

**Please Stop the Rollercoaster Groups:**

New book club groups to start January 2018 and run for 12 months, ending December 2018. Tanya offered to take the lead on sign ups and creating the flyer. She’ll ask High Rock principal and PTC to send out the flyer.

Also, Tanya will ask the members of the two existing pilot groups if anyone would be willing to lead the new January 2018 groups. Thank you, Tanya!!

**Hidden In Plain Sight:** The plan is to have this exhibit brought to Pollard in March 2018 for a one-day event: the exhibit would be open three times during the day, with the third session in the evening and followed with a presentation. Possible presentation topic is vaping. Tanya has a contact at SPECTRUM who could be a potential speaker on this topic. The group explored the idea of having NHS and PMS principals conduct a Q&A on vaping following the speaker. TBD.

**Update on Representative Denise Garlick’s Event**:, "Right Information.... The Right Time"  - Powerful stories of substance use prevention, support and recovery linked to appropriate community supports for all ages **postponed until November 20, 2017** 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Needham Town Hall, Powers Hall, 1471 Highland Avenue.

**Branding NPC:** Discussion ensued around branding NPC to improve visibility and recognition by the Needham community. The suggestion was made to create a ***tag line*** which could be added to our NPC logo.

**PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION!** Caryn Bello offered two tag line ideas:

**Needham Parents Care: Supporting Parents in Parenting**

**Needham Parents Care: supporting parents through the school years.**

**Please email Karen Shannon with your preference. Thank you, Caryn!!**

**Action Steps:**

1. **Karen S. to discuss possibility of Catherine Delano or other representative attending the monthly meetings with PTC presidents and the superintendent of schools**
2. **Explore parent messaging article running in the Hometown Weekly each month.**
3. **Karen S. to discuss with John Carr the likelihood of access to John Badalament’s book and also explore funding options for his fee for service.**

**---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**ARCHIVE INFORMATION**

**Monthly Parent Messaging themes:**

**September: Transitions\*\***

**October: Friendship\*\***

**November: Conflict resolution with friends (Author: Elizabeth Barnes)**

**December: Holiday/Expectations and Stress (Author: Carol Litzler, LICSW)**

**January: Wellness/Mindfulness (Author: Blue Lotus)**

**February: Resilience (Author: Caryn Bello)**

**March: Social Media (Author: Abby Langmead)**

**April: Technology**

**May: Nutrition (Author: Caryn Bello)**

**June: Safety**