

Character Council of Hamburg  
Education Committee  
9-25-08 at 9:00am  
Frontier Middle School  
Host: Kerry Courtney

In attendance:

Kerry Courtney, Frontier Middle  
Jennifer Betz, Frontier Middle  
Kim Barry, Frontier Middle  
Laura Glista, Pinehurst Elem.  
Jill Monaco, Immaculata Academy  
Saima Horab, Immaculata and St. Bernadette's  
Patricia Chlebowski, Saints Peter and Paul  
Laura Ruszczuk, Charlotte Ave. Elem.  
Kathy Battin, Hamburg High  
Jerry Whalen, Hamburg High student  
Laura Pullano, Hamburg High student  
Jessica Evans, Hamburg High student  
Jane Pastor, Blasdell Elem.  
Bruce Mitchell, Armor Elem.  
Peter Simon, Lake Shore retired, CCOH Board member  
Barbara Beall, Big Tree Elem.  
Jackie Jackson, Big Tree Elem.  
Patti Durni, Cloverbank Elem.  
Christina Sullivan, Frontier High  
David Smaczniak, Frontier High  
Jeffrey Sortisio, Frontier High  
Mary Ann Castello, Frontier Education Center  
Leanna Scibetta, Union Pleasant Elem.

Welcome and introductions

History of CCOH and CCOH Ed Committee – Kerry Courtney

- Summit in 2000 has led to what and where we are now
- We as educators are the leaders
- Contributing to the larger issue of character development

Board of Directors update – Pete Simon

- 14 members strong
- Strategic plan handout specific to our committee
- This committee is most organized and committed. The Board is working on better developing the other committees.
- Cultivating Ambassadors for Character; have 5 people so far: Superintendents, Mayor, Jack Quinn Jr, Sister Edmunette, FSSJ and retired Hilbert Board Member

10-13-08 is national Character Week – have a dress down/wear a hat/etc day to raise funds for CCOH.

School Project for articles in The Sun is still under way with direction by Patti Durni.

- Patti will be emailing the rotation of schools participating as soon as she has a complete list of schools interested. Essays, poetry, etc are welcomed.
- How to get student interest to write? Ask English classes or a writing/newspaper club; select one student; have a competition; the possibilities are out there!

Character Conference update: (handouts given)

3-14-09 Character Carnival at the HUB –

- Schools will be assigned a trait and be asked to have an activity at their table.
- T- Shirt purchase for volunteers
- Any questions/ideas go to Laura Glista at Pinehurst

3-19-08 – Steve Menzel of Character First!

3-20-08 – Dr. Borba – international speaker – Building Moral Intellegence

This will become an annual event

Membership recruitment/reminders:

- Hamburg MS – Kerry
- Day Care Centers – Kim
- St. Francis – Jill
- Hopevale – Laura
- Southtowns Catholic – Jill

Virtue posters – ST. Bernadette's and Frontier High would like to get some – Suzanne

Character sharing:

Mentoring for students, awards throughout the year, service hours as a school-wide project, various fundraisers and collections for local families/charities, aligning with local organizations long term – Hospice, Camp Good Days; Rachel's Challenge at Frontier Middle on October 16<sup>th</sup> – 8:30-9:30, 9:30-10:30 and 1:15-2:15... evening at 7pm; speakers/assemblies, breakfast for stars, Character Teams and Clubs – Hamburg High's is particularly active with more than 120 members!!... One of their secrets is having club meetings in the morning so they aren't in conflict with so many other clubs and sports.

The future of Character Sharing in the minutes: There are SO many wonderful things going on in all of the schools, it is near impossible to write it all down with such enthusiasm. Therefore, if you write all of your happenings down for me and give it to me at the meeting, I will be sure to get every detail in the minutes! ☺

I hope to see you at our next meeting! Thursday, November 13, 9am at Immaculata Academy.