

CCOH Education Committee Meeting Minutes
9-27-07
Frontier Middle School

1. In attendance:
 - Kerry Courtney, Frontier Middle
 - Jill Monaco, Immaculata Academy
 - Laura Glista, Pinehurst
 - Suzanne McKenney, CCOH President
 - Peter Simon, Lake Shore retired
 - Vanessa Manney, Lake Shore WT Hoag intern
 - Patti Durni, Cloverbank
 - Barb Beall, Big Tree
 - Kim Barry, Frontier Middle
 - Jennifer Betz, Frontier Middle
 - Laura Ruszczyk, Charlotte Avenue
 - Michael Shea, Cloverbank
 - Alex Elliott, Hamburg High student
 - Jessica Evans, Hamburg High student
 - Kathy Battin, Hamburg High
 - Pat Chlebowski, Saints Peter and Paul
 - Bruce Mitchell, Armor Elementary
 - Michael Baumann, Frontier High

2. Board of Directors update from Suzanne McKenney
 - Building communities of character Conference in Oklahoma City September 19-21: people there from around the globe; refreshing and exciting; great speakers.
 - Larry Biddle: founder of Renaissance program; a system of rewards and incentives for students, teachers and administration
 - John Walko PhD: Academy of Character in Albany. Designated by the National Character Education Partnership to be the NYS agency responsible for the NYS Schools of Character awards program. Applications due by Dec. 1st.
 - Local character education ward given by CCOH is in process.
 - DVD Character First! Business, cities, police, schools
 - “Teaching the Virtues” article by Christina Hoff Sommers, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Clark University handed out
 - Graduate School of Education at UB: Suzanne will be speaking in a panel discussion named “Character Education: Fostering Respect, Responsibility, and Citizenry in our Youth” Registration form distributed
 - CCOH needs Board of Director members!!!
 - Honored Kerry Courtney for his dedication, reliability, follow through, and all of the great things he has done for CCOH since its inception.

3. Annual Dress down day for CCOH helps to defer costs of posters, etc. The week of October 19th is recommended. You can bring your donation to the next meeting.
4. Character Development day co-hosted by CCOH and Hilbert College: 3-17 through 3-21-08 will be ideal timing; speakers were discussed: Dr. Borba? Local panel?; funding an issue that maybe Erie 1 can help with. Sub committee formed: Kerry, Bruce, Jill, Kim, Jennifer, Laura R, Kathy, and (maybe) Tim Lee and Barb Bonnano of Hilbert. Meeting date TBD.
5. Handouts:
 - What Happy Faces are Hiding: Talking about Depression
 - The Academy for Character Ed at the Sage Colleges
 - Character Recognition Worksheet
 - Never Underestimate the Power of your Actions
 - Hamburg Central: Girls' Varsity Soccer thinks pink & wins for cancer research
 - CCOH "creating a culture of character"
 - Teacher orientation seminar workbook (extras from last year's conference)
6. Review of virtues for 07-08
 - Sept/Oct: Dependability
 - Nov/Dec: Determination
 - Jan/Feb: Deference
 - Mar/Apr: Compassion
 - May/Jun: Joyfulness
 - Reminder: You can use the other virtues that the community uses monthly.
7. Review of meeting dates for 07-08
 - 11-15 at Armor Elem.
 - 1-24-08 at Charlotte Ave.
 - 3-13 at Saints Peter and Paul
 - 5-15 at Cloverbank
8. When doing a press release from your school that has to do with character, please mention CCOH.
9. Membership reminders to be taken care of: Hamburg Middle and Blasdell Elem – Kerry; St. Francis – Jill; local preschools – Kim
10. School project idea: contact Dan Meyer of the Hamburg Sun and submit character essays by grade level, theme, etc; maybe have judging, awards, etc. Can do in school newspapers on a smaller scale. Volunteers to further develop the idea: Patti Durni and Vanessa Manney.

11. Character sharing: Rachel's Challenge at HHS: students trained, resources given, a great event (Lake Shore doing next week); scholarships; detentions to do character worksheets; youth summit on Nov 2nd having 7-12 graders discuss what educators can do to help them; Character Fair – many workshops for students; food bank donations; National Promising Practices award to Pinehurst Elementary!!! Music with a message on AM announcements and more enthusiasm; breast cancer awareness; Saints Peter and Paul teaming up with other elementary schools to do peer listening.
12. Thanks for all you do and keep up the great work! ☺
13. See you on November 15th at Armor Elementary, 9am