

 <p><b>MINUTES</b></p>	<b>Date:</b>	June 4, 2009
	<b>Time:</b>	10 am
	<b>Location:</b>	NWHU board room
	<b>Chair:</b>	Carolyn Skirten
	<b>Recorder:</b>	Ann Anderson
<b>Type of meeting:</b>	Network meeting	
<b>Participants:</b>	Carolyn Skirten, Debby Cousineau, Kim Gardiman, Kim Anderson, Leanne Minneault, Judith Lindholm, Mildred Beck	
<b>Guests:</b>	Bill Reynolds, Chris Maltais	
<b>Regrets:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>		

1. Welcome and Best Start Vision
2. Review of Minutes – some minor revisions were made – Carolyn Skirten will make the changes and resend to the membership
3. Ongoing and New Business:
  - a. Financial Update – see Mildred’s “Planning and Development Financial” for dollar breakdown. The network members felt that breaking down the numbers into committee expenses would be helpful.
  - b. Website Cost – see handout itemizing cost of independent Best Start website. Decision was made to go ahead and pursue independent website using RRDSSAB domain – a few clarifying questions also needed to be asked on the Fort Frances Times. A working group will be struck to determine the content of the site, Kim Anderson will ask their IT person, Colin Drombolis to sit on that subcommittee. A presentation will be scheduled at the Sept network meeting.
  - c. EDI & PIDAC presentations – Bill Reynolds. Members were quite interested in the results as a whole but particularly interested in the RR district only as compared to other districts and the province as a whole. Bill will send all network members his PPP.
  - d. Cost of bringing School’s Cool training to the RR district (see attached estimate). Members felt it was very expensive and that BS network could not host the entire event but may be able to sponsor in some way some funds. The SC surveys revealed that the Child care workers were the most interested in the training as opposed to the K teachers.

- e. Lauris Werenko wants to remain a member of the RR District BS Network.
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4. Communication Committee report: Last BS newsletter will be sent out in June/09. This type of information would best be presented on the new website. The hubs still send out newsletters which are very informative in terms of resources and activities for parents and families. Communication strategy with timelines was distributed to all members. Leanne asked for feedback and received some very positive comments. Members stressed that we don't have to necessarily create new events but that we can tag onto what is traditionally done in the district (setting up a display, acknowledging partnerships within events, etc). A Health Promoter, Shannon Robinson from the NWHU helped them develop a workable plan. The network member list sent out by Debby Cousineau is the ONE & ONLY ONE to go by. There were some updates at the meeting so it will be sent out to the group by Carolyn Skirten when the revised copy is ready. Next meeting June 10, 2009
  5. Recruiting Partners committee report: Nothing to report
  6. Hub Update: Leanne M. reported on activities of various hubs
  7. Coalition Update : Tammy Faykes reported on Atikokan programs.
  8. Ann Anderson provided information on a couple of programs: ABLLS and Moe the Mouse. The RRDSB is implementing the ABLLS with the high needs students and wanted to get feedback on whether preschool agencies would be interested in it as well so that transitions would seamless in terms of programming. Moe the Mouse is a speech language kit that focuses on enhancing oral language for Aboriginal children. The RRDSB is interested in offering some training but after getting feedback from the membership, more info is needed regarding the targets and goals of the intervention. After returning from that meeting, Ann met with superintendent of RRDSB and a plan is in the works on how to engage partners in possibly helping out with hiring a behavior person who can diagnose as well as provide follow-up for students with behavior problems, ASD, developmental delay and high support special needs students. More information to follow at subsequent meetings.
  9. Assets in Action conference: Seems very worthwhile but very difficult for Education to attend at this time of year. The RRDSB would appreciate feedback on the conference since the admin of the RRDSB are very interested in hosting another similar meeting in the Fall.

10. Transition plan update: Debby Cousineau presented a very comprehensive “transition plan completion hierarchy” that would be very useful to service providers of preschool children transitioning to school. It is highly recommended that all preschool agencies follow this hierarchy so that we are all on the same page. After the meeting, it was evident that both the schools and preschool agencies need further inservicing on how to use the new transition plan. For the RRDSB, this will come about in the fall, but it may be beneficial for the preschool agencies to meet regarding their “how to” manual in the summer months. There will be a review of the transition plan after it has been in use for 1 year to fine tune the process based on actual hands on use.

Next meeting : Fall 2009