

**VERMILION COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
CHALLENGE B COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE December 6, 2005 MEETING
Vermilion Co. Court House Annex 3rd floor
6 N. Vermilion St., Danville IL**

PRESENT: Kay Brown Craig DeArmond Mark Denman Mary Heckler Jim Owens
Mike Metzen Kerry Smith Kay Smoot

Staff: Lori Brewster

CALL TO ORDER – Champion Jim Owens called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.
Introductions were done.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Craig DeArmond, seconded by Kerry Smith. Approved by a unanimous voice vote. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF REMAINING CHALLENGE B GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION PLANS —

Priority #7 – Brewster presented the rewording of Priority #7 which is the collapsing of #7, #9 and #10

Goal and Objective – Stress the importance of good nutrition, reading aloud to your children, regular attendance remaining in the same school during the academic year, taking rigorous courses, the value of an education and continuous learning, plus the awareness of drug use, gang related activity, and alcohol prevention that kids may become engaged in.

Action Plan—Establish a peer group within each school that would review procedures at all levels that involve at risk students. Review policy and procedures to identify obstacles following the Ruby Payne training, review the mobility rate, the effects of those that do not remain in the same location during the academic year, make the parents and student/community aware.

Offer expanded alternatives to the traditional light load during the senior year of high school. Set benchmarks so that measurable goals for all educational programs are met. Help social services agencies pool their resources so that waiting lists for counseling are reduced.

Committee was in agreement with the rewording of Priority #7 as presented.

Under the “Already in Place” not all schools have peer mentors in place. Denman explained that a Student Support Team (SST), made up of social worker, guidance counselor, is contacted

by a teacher for a student depending on behavior, grades, and intervention. Suggestion was made to change terminology from SST to “ Social and Academic Support Intervention Team”.

Priority #8 – After discussion it was decided to reword **Goal & Objective** to read: “Develop a public relations campaign to stress the importance of achieving a high school education / GED.”

The Committee discussed adding to **Action Plan**: Strengthen the public Relation Campaign hitting various news media including radio and place mats at restaurants
Have youth develop campaign for finishing high school and Finish First in addition to Character Counts.

Priority #11 – After discussion it was decided move the Goal & Objective to an Action Plan under Priority #7,

There was discussion in working with the health providers in implementing regarding the nutritional information, vitamins and medications etc. The committee under further discussion deleted the Priority #11 Action Plan regarding vitamins and medications, and under Already in Place deleting item #2 and move item #1 to Priority #7 Already in Place.

Priority #12 – Discussion was to target health careers, information technologies, and manufacturing. A Grant has already been written and submitted, however, with or without the Grant DACC is going to move forward with that project.

The committee agreed to switch the Action Plan to the Goal and Objective and the Goal and Objective to the Action Plan adding under **Goal and Objective** that the “Step Ahead program offers 3 academies including health careers, information technologies, and manufacturing at DACC, Project Lead the Way and High Tech Education is also available”.

Add under **Already in Place** “DACC offer senior year.

Timeline: 2006-2007.

Priority #13 – Decision was made to delete first sentence of Action Plan. Adding additional **Action Plan**: “Have brochures available for students at registration and brochures to parents with report card after spring break before registration; publicize in newspaper, link high school pages to DACC dual enrollment page”.

Priority #16 – Timeline is ongoing. Funding is State funded. Vermilion County Schools are responsible.

DISCUSS TIMELINE, FUNDING, AND RESPONSIBILITY – No discussion.

COMMENTS – Priority #14 through #17 will be worked on in February.

NEXT MEETING – February 7, 2006 at 3:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was informally adjourned.