



MONTHLY PARTNERSHIP

MAY 18, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Present: Sacha Siskonen, Virginia Watahomigie, Erin Kruse, Sylvia Johnson, Stacie Zanzucchi, Renee Hobbs, Antara Hunter, Jennifer Hernandez, Samantha Kvarda, Renee Fauset, Renee Henry, Pamela Powell, Steve Peru, Theresa Bierer, Matt Thesig, Brigid Dineen, Jeff Hall, Risha VanderWey, Ramona Mellott, Grace Okoli, Dave Dirksen, Scott Pettitt, Mary K. Walton, Paul Kulpinski

Action Commitment & Education Stories to Share

- Jennifer Hernandez; **ASU's Morrison Institute** in Phoenix to share and review a report about educator retention across the state (***Finding and Keeping Educators for Arizona's Classrooms***). Hoping to bring a similar event to Flagstaff in August.
- Renee Henry; **Flagstaff Community Graduation Night** is coming up on Friday. Seeking 100 adult volunteers to make the event a success.
- Matt Thesig; Girl Scouts and Intel have a **new partnership to hold a STEM camp in Prescott** this summer for middle school girls.
- Steve Peru; Monday there was a **justice summit hosted by NARBHA** and it was an opportunity to explore the role of education in helping students make good choices to avoid a life in the criminal justice system. Toby Olvera from the **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council** is serving on the LAUNCH Community Leadership Council and he can bring data collection experience and how they use it. Paul included the role of the education system in supporting kids who are experience trauma outside of school. Stacy also mentioned a local person from NAU who is studying the **School to Prison Pipeline**.
- Risha Vanderwey; **Justice Summit** – The opportunity to give people a second chance to make different choices is critical. We do a great job of supporting vulnerable children but what else can we do when kids are part of families when parents are incarcerated.
- Steve Peru; Recruiting for **Kindercamp** in Flagstaff, Williams, Page, Winslow and Pinetop-Lakeside. Focus is on children who are English Language Learners and children who have not had any preschool experiences.
- Sylvia Johnson; **Killip Elementary School** took a group of 40 kids to the **National Chess Championship** in Tennessee and one of the K-5 teams tied for first place out of 272 other teams.
- Antara Hunter; The **Flagstaff Chamber** hosted a great teacher appreciation celebration honoring 80 teachers at Little America. They also received a **\$10,000 donation for the teacher supply drive** and the donor will be announced soon.
- Grace Okoli; wondering about **bridge programs for students transitioning** from middle to high school.
- Dave Dirksen; efforts over past two years at **Puente de Hozho have produced an expansion** next year for K-12. Sinagua will host Puente Academy for 6-8 and Coconino will host Puente Institute from 9-12. Robert Kelty is working on having Puente become **the first bilingual International Baccalaureate Program** in the world. **Alpine Academy model is expanding** to Alpine Institute and is launching this fall. Leupp will be opening a **new preschool this fall** as well. **Dave will be transitioning at the end of June** and he will continue to be a part of LAUNCH.

Reports

- **Kindergarten Readiness CAN**
 - Discussion and **exploration of assessment tools** is ongoing. Have decided to pause on introducing any new tools into the assessment discussion but if anyone knows any national tools that are currently being used. For incoming kindergarteners this year will be looking at social and emotional readiness with a tool that Head Start currently uses. FUSD had another
 - Will be gathering data on incoming kindergarteners this year in **partnership with Head Start and FUSD**. Continuing to engage charter schools and private partners but for this year's point in time measurement we are going to use current partners of Head Start and FUSD.
 - FUSD may edit registration form to include additional question(s) about home visits or parent education and then try to correlate that to readiness. Will be looking into a data sharing and data governance policy with FUSD.
- **Post-Secondary CAN**
 - Did not meet in May because of graduation but will convene in June.
 - In addition to **FASFA conversation**, looking at how students are getting to a post-secondary through the **dual-enrollment** programming with CCC and NAU.
 - Jane shared the benefit of dual-enrollment in math, which allows students to bypass math placement tests and go directly into the next level class, eliminating a potential barrier.
- **Data Team**
 - Looking into **data governance and data sharing agreements** and will be coming back in June with a literature review.
- **Communications Team**
 - **Samantha Kvarda, summer intern** to assist through August with communications strategy.
 - **Theresa Bierer is our Communications Team coordinator.**
 - **Facebook page launched** and we got 100 likes. Encouraged people to visit the page and like it as well as sign up for the newsletter.
 - Paul redesigned the **webpage** and he showed it to us
 - Discussion about language and layout as well as how we reach out to parents and if there is data collection. Dave suggested that LAUNCH can reach out to parents through parent advisory council monthly meetings as well as PTOs at individual schools.
 - Goal of having **500 subscribers by October**; currently have 180.
 - Website is meant to reach people outside of education and committee welcomes suggestions.
 - Ramona suggested **Facebook ads**; there is money budgeted to do so.
 - **LAUNCH 101**
 - Monthly presentations for people to learn about the history & goals of LAUNCH, what collective impact is, and how they can get involved.
- High School Counselors
 - **Social Media/Cell Phone Use and Abuse**
 - Counselors from all the high schools requested the opportunity to discuss educating the community about what is happening and the impact on student success.
 - **The group is considering:** Panel discussion, best practices, performance art all being explored. Meeting this afternoon to decide if they want to move forward. It is a **counselor-driven project but LAUNCH is serving as convener** if it moves forward.

- FUSD has had two **community-wide meetings with the AG's office** to explore what is available to kids as well as legal component. Mary Kay offered FUSD technology staff as well as AG contacts.
 - Risha added that **students will not excel if they are under stress**
- Funding Updates
 - Applying for **Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff renewal funding**
 - **Wharton Foundation funding** came through for \$10,000 to supplement Paul's salary. The Board fully supported Paul but did not have sufficient funds to support the entire grant request.
 - The **Leadership Steering Committee** is meeting June 16th for strategic planning which will include fund development.
- AZ Town Hall Event – October 1st
 - **Generated \$17,000 for this event in a very short time; demonstrates the ability LAUNCH has to raise funds**
 - Funding covers event expenses and promotional lead up August – October
 - **Raise awareness about educational environment** and what we do well in Flagstaff
 - 4 hour event
 - Film series promotion in September with 3 films
 - Student leadership pre-town hall event
 - Sylvia suggested we think strategically about how we **get key Flagstaff attendees/LAUNCH members attend the statewide AZ Town Hall.**
 - Sylvia and Rich are putting together **a local report detailing education funding** and extended invitation.
- **STRIVE Network Convening takes place in Phoenix in October 3-5;** as a member LAUNCH gets 2 discounted tickets at \$425 each and then additional attendees pay \$850. Mary Kay commented it was a great experience last year, particularly getting to interact with other STRIVE network members. Steve was looking for structures of other networks (especially those with UW). Sylvia felt it was a great experience and gained deeper understanding of what is truly possible to achieve through the collective impact model and she encouraged anyone who is committed to find a way to attend.

My action commitment is to...

...work toward bringing Educators Rising to our high schools. – **Jane Gaun**

...look for great education stories from the Flagstaff community to highlight statewide. – **Jennifer Hernandez**

...support the Town Hall event and my own personal education about funding mechanisms. – **Erin Kruse**

...promote education and family self-sufficiency through implementation of 2nd generation education strategy. – **Rene Hobbs**

...work to connect STEM City with LAUNCH partners in new and innovative ways. – **Brigid Dineen**

...follow-up with NALA Education Committee to support LAUNCH. – **Jeff Hall**

...do outreach to charter school leaders to inform them about LAUNCH initiatives. – **Renee Fauset**

...to work on a successful Flagstaff Community Grad Night and to share LAUNCH Facebook link with other parents. – **Renee Henry**

...to work with Rich Bowen on the foundational research report for the Flagstaff Town Hall. – **Sylvia Johnson**

...to identify students to participate in the student leadership Town Hall; to gather information about the School to Prison Pipeline as this is important to include this topic in our Town Hall and include positives regarding restorative practices in schools. – **Stacie Zanzucchi**

...to share the LAUNCH Facebook page with Flagstaff friends and support the Flagstaff Grad Night. – **Ramona Mellott**

...to continue collaborating with FUSD on a National History Day teachers training this summer. – **Sacha Siskonen**

...to continue to support the collective impact efforts of the LAUNCH Flagstaff partners. – **Paul Kulpinski**

*Improving education outcomes for our children with collective impact hinges on each of our individual contribution.
Thank you!*

Next meeting on June 15th in Accelerator Conference Room (new building)

Thank you to Erin Kruse for taking meeting notes.