

Division of Career and Adult Education  
Practical Nursing Advisory Council  
Family Literacy Oversight Committee  
Meeting Minutes, September 16, 2013

Members Present: Carmen Rodriguez, Will Wise, Kathy Severson, Maria Gonzalez, Susan Barnes, Leota Fussell, and Martha Jo Markey

Members Not Present: Dan Dubbert, Julie Price, Amanda Wood, Linda Waters, Raye Southwell, Debbie Markham, Jim Selph, Asya Whitlock, Minerva Ortiz, J. Worthington, and Kenneth Johnson

Guest: Kristen Spahr

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Severson at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes of the May 20, 2013 meeting were presented. Mrs. Markey Markey made a motion to approve minutes as written, with a second from Sheriff Wise. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Old Business

The Career Pathways grant was received by the district for the last two years; however no new grant funds are expected. The program is headed up by Dr. McCoy of the Family Service Center. This program is designed to assist students in finding their skills and matching those skills with jobs for which they can be trained. Mrs. Severson distributed an update of the program showing that to date this school year 65 students have been served through Career Pathways at the Family Service Center.

Mrs. Severson reported that the following 2013-2014 grants were approved:

AGE with an increase of \$20,000 for a total of \$140,000  
ESOL in the amount of \$49,000  
Florida Blue for \$5000  
Barbara Bush Family Literacy for \$18,750 (reduced from \$25,000).

#### New Business

Mrs. Severson distributed and reviewed the Division of Career and Adult Education 2013-2014 Projections showing a decrease from the \$1,076,030 funds in 2012-13 to \$945,003 in 2013-14 (a total of \$131,027 decrease).

Mrs. Severson reviewed the GED changes coming in January 2014. She also explained that students attending ABE/GED/ESOL classes pay tuition fees: In-state \$45 and Non-resident \$180 per semester.

Mrs. Severson distributed and reviewed enrollment comparisons between last school year and this school year as follows:

07/01/12 – 09/09/12	Total Enrollments 170
07/01/13 – 09/09/13	Total Enrollments 160

Mrs. Severson distributed Workforce Development Funds, Targeted CTE Funds, and Performance-based Incentives Funds showing a decrease of \$126,532 in Workforce Development Funds.

Mrs. Severson distributed copies of the Family Service Center September Newsletter. The newsletter was sent by email to all school district employees, to chamber members, and was given to Family Service Center students and staff. We hope to continue the publication monthly.

Mrs. Severson asked the council if they would be open to changing our meeting time from 2:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in order to have students serve on the council. There were no objections. Due to lack of a quorum, no vote was taken on the change; however, the November 18 meeting time was set for 1:00 p.m.

Nominations of Kristen Spahr, Elvia Valdovinos, Diana Manriquez, and Delorise Mathis were made. These individuals will be contacted by Mrs. Fussell prior to the next meeting to see if they are willing to serve on our council. If so, a motion to accept these additions to the council will be made at the November meeting.

Mrs. Severson reported that the Family Literacy Program to date is serving 21 families and 22 children/babies. This program is sponsored by the Barbara Bush Foundation.

Mrs. Price was in clinicals with her students and not present to give an update on the LPN program. Mrs. Severson reported there are 11 students in this year's program. Last year's students will soon begin taking the state boards.

Sheriff Wise of the DCSO reported DeSoto County's crime rate is down and the state crime rate has reached a 42 year low. He is currently working on the budget and reported there are 141 inmates at the DeSoto County Jail.

Mrs. Markey reviewed the progress of the Faith Food Bank program. Mosaic donated \$10,000 to AFFB and designated the funds for DeSoto County. The foundation was informed by AFFB, that a foundation in Sarasota had agreed that if another \$10,000 was raised, the \$20,000 would be matched. The funds were raised, the match has been made giving DeSoto County \$40,000 for this program. It is the hopes of the foundation that this will continue the program until the 2015-2016 school year. In addition, the foundation has received a \$2,500 grant from the Wal-Mart Distribution Center. The backpacks will be packed by volunteers at the Family Service Center Annex and delivered to the three elementary schools and middle school to be distributed to the children to take home for the weekend. The high school Food Pantry has been in operation since May 2013 and is open every week for 2 hours. Since May it has served 365 children.

Kristen Spahr of DeSoto Memorial Hospital announced the county-wide emergency drill to be held in October. This drill will include the Fire Department, School District, DeSoto Memorial Hospital, local law enforcement, and others. She also shared that the State Surgeon General, Dr. John Armstrong, toured the Health Department recently. Dr. Armstrong stated that obesity is a serious problem in our state and indicated that his top health priority is to reduce the state obesity rate and focus on childhood obesity.

The next meeting date will be November 18 at 1:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Barnes to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leota K. Fussell