



Bemidji Homeless Advisory Team

Thursday, May 28, 2015

Members Present: Vince Beyl, Jolene Enerson, Stephanie Hubbard, Angie Lauderbaugh, Kathy Palm, Tami Wesely

Minutes:

1. From 1:00-2:00: Angie and Jolene compared student lists to be sure they have accounted for all homeless students. They reported that we have served 285 to 290 students so far this year.
2. At 2:00, the committee members reviewed the minutes from the April 30, 2015, meeting.
3. Jolene shared that Michelle from Walmart would like to work with area businesses to gather donations and distribute up to 3,000 student backpacks including school supplies. The Salvation Army has distributed backpacks in the past, and they could possibly work with this program and area churches. The group may call upon our committee to help in early August. Angie asked them to set aside 50 for homeless students. Walmart wants to advertise the businesses who contribute on the backpack, and our committee thinks this would mark students as receiving a free backpack. We prefer that they advertise their donations in a different way.
4. Angie shared the latest communication with Evergreen. They are keeping the students who have been suspended from schools, so the AEC is serving fewer students. There is still a need to discuss the exact process for registering students for a school within the three days, so Tami will update her document to detail the registration process. For elementary students, Horace May provides a tour of their school, and District Transportation provides transportation under McKinney Vento. When Evergreen feels that it is inappropriate or unsafe for Evergreen students to attend a traditional school, they document this and inform Tami or Angie. Those students then continue receiving educational services at AEC.
5. Angie shared that she continues to talk to Red Lake about transportation of their students at Evergreen to Red Lake schools. She recently visited with their superintendent, who had received notice from Roberto Reyes about the requirements of McKinney Vento. Red Lake is making plans for ways they can transport their students from Evergreen to Red Lake schools.
6. Angie mentioned the end-of-year report, but she has received no notice yet from MDE that this is required. Usually, she receives notice later in the summer, so she will work on this report to have it ready when requested.
7. We adjourned the meeting at 2:45. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 24, 2015, at 1:00 for Angie and Jolene and 2:00 for the whole committee.