

IDEA TASK FORCE COALITION MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION
Islip Public Schools ♦ 215 Main Street ♦ Islip, NY 11751 ♦ (631) 650-8300

IDEA COALITION TASK FORCE

Minutes – March 19, 2018

7:00 p.m.; Islip High School Community Room

Islip Public Schools

*Board of Education
Central Office Administration
Islip Association of School
Administrators
Islip Teachers Association
Islip School Security
Islip High School Students
Wing School PTA
Commack Road School PTA
Sherwood School PTA
Islip Middle School PTA
Islip High School PTSA
Islip SEPTA
Islip Booster Club
Islip Friends of the Arts*

Great South Bay YMCA

Islip Chamber of Commerce

Islip Fire Department

Islip North Community Watch

KIC-Keep Islip Clean

Northwell Health Southside Hospital

*NY National Guard Counter Drug Task
Force*

Old South Islip Civic Association

Presbyterian Church of Islip

Rotary Club of the Islip's

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

South Islip Community Watch

South Shore Community Organization

South Saxon Community Watch

SC Department of Health Services

SC Legislature – 10th Leg District

SCPD Third Precinct COPE Unit

Syntax Communication

Trinity Lutheran Church

The Islip Elks Lodge #2533

Youth Enrichment Services

ATTENDEES: See sign-in sheet

7:08 p.m. Meeting opened by Mrs. Paehr and all welcomed.

New members: Mark F. West (OSICA), formerly involved in the 90s as a president of PTA; Susan Slattery (parent), students at CRES and IMS. Both heard about IDEA at Islip Chamber of Commerce meeting.

The minutes from February 5, 2018 were approved.

REPORTS:

- **FINANCIAL REPORTS** – In Mrs. Schnebel and Mrs. Carr's absence, Mrs. Paehr presented the expenditures since our last meeting:
 - February 12th - \$714.56 for Game Night supplies
 - February 13th - \$829.45 for Mrs. Vouris' trip to CADCA Leadership Forum
 - February 14th - \$985.25 for materials to support district curriculum

All financial expenditures were approved.

- **PROJECT DIRECTOR** -- Mrs. Vouris attended CADCA's National Leadership Forum in National Harbor, Maryland in February. She attended three weeks of CADCA training in 2017, as well. At CADCA, she spoke with a tri-county coalition from West Virginia who will email her tips on sustainability. They use plastic page protector signs in bathroom stalls to get out facts and messages. May want to consider doing this, not just in schools, but throughout the community.

Long Island Prevention Resource Center sent her a fact sheet on e-cigarette and vape use. She will share with members for school use.

Mrs. Vouris presented at the Islip Chamber of Commerce meeting on Wednesday, March 14th. An attorney from East Islip expressed interest in joining the coalition. Representatives from the hospital attended, as well.

Save the Date for the Trinity Health Fair on April 14th. Mrs. Vouris passed around a volunteer sheet for those interested in staffing an IDEA table at the fair.

Mrs. Vouris also requested that the Community Connectors reach out to members that have not been attending Coalition meetings. She will coordinate with Mrs. Schnebel and Mrs. Carr to provide a list of names.

- **PROJECT COORDINATOR/SUBSTANCE ABUSE SPECIALIST** – Ms. Hall shared Mrs. Pennington’s report in her absences, as well as her own. Eighth grader Alexis Bates provided wonderful feedback about Tim Shoemaker’s presentation to the sixth and eighth graders. She loved that he explained a personal point of view, noting that it was very relatable as opposed to “DON’T DO DRUGS.”

The evening presentation of “High-Ding in Plain Sight” was also well received, with about 70 people attending. Mrs. Schnebel and Mrs. Carr are putting together a post event survey using the online platform, Survey Monkey. A link to the survey will be emailed to all attendees for whom we have an email address (which is a majority). Mrs. Pennington did send Mr. Shoemaker a thank you card.

Correction was made to the Ms. Hall’s report – the money for the Save a Life tour presentation for our high school seniors is coming from State Senator Phil Boyle’s office.

Ms. Hall has started an IDEA account on Instagram (@ideataskforce). Legislator Cilmi suggested that we include student-created meaningful memes in our feed. Alexis Bates will put together a few to show Ms. Hall.

- **YOUTH COORDINATOR** – Mr. Modica showed the group how to get to the website, and shared recent updates, including the new logo. Mrs. Vouris suggested that resources from Mr. Shoemaker be included on the site. She will forward these to Mr. Modica. She also mentioned that the gentleman she is in contact with from the West Virginia coalition complimented the site. Legislator Cilmi pointed out a spelling correction that needed to be made on the site.

Mr. Modica also had updates on Juuls and the potent THC liquid, which students have been using more often. He has found out that the THC liquid is being sold ‘under the counter’ in gas stations and food marts. Students have to go into the store and ask for them, after which the workers take them out. Our 8th grade representative shared that students in her grade are sharing “juuls for sale” posts on their SnapChat and Instagram accounts to sell their extra juuls. Juuls are small vape devices that look similar to a flash drive.

The Superintendent of Sachem Schools, the ESBOCES principal, as well as other school districts have inquired about our Restorative Justice program. They cannot seem to control the vaping issue like we are able to do in a school environment.

Game Night update: Parents will have to come in for student pick up. The plan is for Mr. Modica to speak to the parents and hand out resources and brochures. The information will be available in both English and Spanish. Rather than doing simple raffles, there will be a Game Night trivia, which will include drug fact questions. Community Connectors will pick up the water. Six gift cards have been received so far (Bubbas, SoBol, LI Beach Bowls. Still waiting on Pizza Parm.) Legislator Cilmi mentioned that the event is on the same night as the Purple and Gold Dinner (starts at 7:00 p.m.), so we may want to be more careful in selecting dates going forward.

- **CULTURAL LIAISON** – Mrs. Denegles reported that she has updated resources in English, Spanish, and Urdu and is looking for other languages, as well.

Together with the principals at CRES and SES, she would like to put together a positive event to bridge the two schools. The plan is to get the community, PTA, and staff involved in planning this event. Mrs. Denegeles would like IDEA to consider helping with this event, possibly with transportation. They would like to hold it at Hecksher Park, and include games, a scavenger hunt, nature walk, and team building activities. While the park does have group rates, many suggested that Seatuck, on South Bay Avenue in Islip, might be easier and cheaper, with shuttle buses provided to and from parking at Town Hall on Main Street and/or Sherwood Elementary School. Legislator Cilmi did offer to reach out to the Regional Director of Parks for assistance in reserving Hecksher Park, if we want to do that. The original plan was to hold the event this spring or summer, but given time constraints, would like to do so in spring/summer 2019.

Alexis Bates suggested that if the plan were to go forward, students should be encouraged to not just stick with their friend groups. SES and CRES students should be in blended groups, forcing them to get to know one another. The old Frost Valley concept for ice breakers was suggested. Peer Mentors and Athletes Helping Athletes could help with these activities, which IDEA could design. A bad weather plan should be in place; 8th grader Alexis Bates suggested a movie night/scavenger hunt at the middle school, which would also be a great way for the fifth graders to get to know the building. A sub-committee sign up sheet for the event was circulated.

- **POST PROM** – Mr. Austin that the design phase of the event started on March 1st. There have been three sessions so far, with eight to ten people helping out at each. An eight foot by eight foot backdrop has been created for photos; this will be shared with the Junior Prom. Lobby and wall designs are also being painted. All building use forms have been filed, and the contract for the entertainment vendor is being vetted by the school district's attorney.

Upcoming fundraisers include Paint Night on April 19th in the HS Cafeteria starting at 6:30 p.m. They are also looking at doing another Dang BBQ fundraiser, and possible one with Five Guys, as well. Committee members will also be at the Islip Street Fair and Festival of the Arts.

Mr. Austin will be meeting with Chazz Florist and the Elks. He did ask for donations of empty one gallon opaque milk jugs, for the building of an igloo. He will reach out to Mrs. Carr to see about getting this request posted on the district website and sent to each building.

Mr. West asked if black and white photos were being used as part of the black and white theme. Mr. Austin explained what the art teachers were providing, along with the Historical Society. Alexis Bates asked about the idea of sharing health messages for the seniors and their parents. Mrs. Vouris and Legislator Cilmi shared thoughts on using short and sweet youth to youth messages for staying safe. Mrs. Paehr mentioned that in the past, younger students created pictures with hand written letters to the graduating seniors that were placed on the tables.

In order to avoid having students wander off and return, Mr. Austin will be using a 30-minute timer and a \$500 gift. Any seniors who arrive at the Post Prom within the first 30 minutes after the last bus returns to Islip will receive an extra raffle ticket.

OTHER SECTORS

- **BOARD OF EDUCATION** – Board Vice-President Phil Dineen shared that the Budget Workshops for 2018-19 have begun. The next Board meeting/workshop will be at the Islip Middle School on Tuesday, March 27th. All are invited to attend to find out more about the process.

OLD BUSINESS

- **CHRIS HERREN** – This year's event is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23rd for 10th and 11th graders. The cost is being subsidized by a grant sponsored by Senator Phil Boyle's office, along with Islip North Community Watch Group.

NEW BUSINESS

- Legislator Tom Cilmi shared that there will be a public hearing in Hauppauge at 2:30 p.m. on March 20th to expand the Social Host Law to include illicit drugs. He noted that 13 of the 18 legislators are in support of this expansion to the law. Mrs. Vouris circulated a copy of it.
- Jessica Olsen-Hoek from YES shared that the "Too Good For Drugs" program has been expanded to now include fourth grade.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, April 16, 2018

8:18 p.m. Meeting adjourned