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Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 8th, 3:00-4:30
Portland Arts and Technology High School

Present:

Jo Morrissey, Assistant Project Director, 21 Reasons
Sarah Kinsler, Project Assistant, 21 Reasons
Ellen Popenoe, Portland Parent, Neuropsychologist
Sue Steele, Safe and Drug Free School Coordinator, Portland Public Schools
Jim Bourque, Vice President, Nappi Distributors
Andrew Hutchings – Portland Police Department

Absent:

Stephanie Duggan, Coordinator of Diversion and Rehabilitation Programs, District Attorney's Office
Amanda Edgar, Community Health Promotion Specialist, Portland Health and Human Services
Mary Greenvall, Program Director, Boys and Girls Club Southern ME
Tom Handel, Executive Director, Community Television Network
Abby Hudson, student, Portland High School
Bruce Koharian, Teacher, Deering HS
Dr. Bankole Kolawole, Project Director, Minority Health Program
Sister Patricia Pora, Director, Hispanic Outreach – Diocese of Portland
Christine Thibeault, Assistant District Attorney, Chief, Juvenile Division
Leslie LaFrance, Education Program Manager, SARSSM
Soni Waterman, Director, Youth Building Alternatives, Learning Works
Officer Ray Ruby, Portland Police Department
Jeanne Whynot-Vickers, Director of Educational Excellence, Learning Works
Caroline Raymond, Director, Day One
Joanne West, Program Manager, Day One
Carol Swicker, Project Manager, 21 Reasons

I. Opening

- a) Jo Morrissey reviewed the agenda and performed introductions.

II. Governance

- a) The group reviewed 21 Reasons Coalition Guidelines and Practices, including suggested edits for the coming year. The edited guidelines were approved unanimously.

- b) The group approved new leadership for the upcoming year. Sue Steele was nominated for the position of Coalition Chair and was approved unanimously. Ray Ruby was nominated for the position of Coalition Vice-Chair and was also approved unanimously.

III. Operations

- a) Jo updated the group on several recent developments:
- New principals at Portland High School and Riverton Elementary.
 - The new PHS principal was a big supporter of the DFC Coalition in prior community (Derry, NH).
 - Possibility of working with her and Portland High School parents (table talks, for example).
 - Upcoming meeting with Dr. Morse.
 - We're planning to propose Table Talks (supported or sponsored) for parents and staff training to improve modeling and messaging to students.
 - Sue suggested that we work towards mandatory training for all coaches, health/PE teachers, and administrators/assistant principals, and emphasized the importance of working with the middle schools.
 - Looking ahead, Chalk It Up (perhaps with state-wide partners) and a legislative breakfast will be coming up this fall.

