



President and Chair: *Larry Weiss*

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Parents Matter Coalition Meeting and Christmas Luncheon was held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at Noon in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Avera St. Mary's Hospital.

Members in attendance: Carmella Bourk (Health Sector Member Representative), Denice L. Moore, (Vice President), Elton Blemaster (Law Enforcement Sector), Julie Moore (Guest), Jeff Monroe (Dist. 32 Senator), Melisa Forest (Capital Area Counseling), Theresa Riggs (Guest), Amy Boutchee (School Representative), Marty Jackley, (SD Attorney General), Larry Weiss (Chairman), Ruby L. Douglas (Project Director), Laura Mehlhaff (Guest), and Amy Fowler (Other Sector Member Representative).

Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order and Introductions were made. Chairman Weiss presented the Consent Calendar and Agenda and requested a motion to approve, amend or any additions. Ruby requested that Accreditation Status be added to the agenda. Motion to approve: Denice made the motion to approve and was seconded by Elton.

Larry introduced the Guest Speaker, Theresa Riggs, to provide the Summary Report from the Strategic Planning Session held on November 14, 2014. ( Attached is the Summary Report ). Mention was made that the one issues receiving the lowest points were the ones of most concern. Alcohol received the highest points which seemed to indicate that it was of the least concern. However, it was noted that Parents Matter has been working on reducing/preventing underage drinking and our success may be the reason as to why it was not as much as a concern as Other Drugs, Bullying or Suicide.

Discussion ensued and Chairman Weiss stated that we would be inviting other organizations, agencies, etc. to the table to work together with others to insure that we are not duplicating efforts and thus, have a greater impact. An example given was the compliance checks conducted by Law Enforcement which also includes Training for Responsible Servers program.

Amy stated that she and her staff would like more information on how to identify symptoms of drug use as opposed to use of alcohol by students. Another issue of concern was the social media and stated that it is easier to use social media devices and say things without the "face to face" contact. Amy said that

she deals mainly with Conflict Resolution issues rather than Bullying. Amy provided a definition of Bullying . (Attachment). Ruby stated that she had access to resources regarding Relational Aggression that might be helpful. Amy did state that social media is also a poitive influence in that it provides the students with learning opportunities too. Laura mentioned that she organizes and provides training in social emotional learning, ,etc. for the State as a means for educating adults as well in the use of Social media. AG Marty Jackley stated that there is a Google Program for 5<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> Graders that provides awareness regarding Dangers of the Internet, Protecting oneself, etc. He said this program delivered four performances at the Whitney School.

Larry and Ruby reported out the funding for Parents Matter Coalition. The Coalition has \$30,000.00 amended to their contract for the next eight months. October and November funding has been accessed approximately \$13,000.00 leaving a balance of approximately, \$17,000.0 for operational costs for the next six months. Larry stated that he would continue to work with governmental entities in requesting funding to address the Coalition's shortfall. Ruby stated that Accreditation provided Parents Matter the ability to provide direct services however; a funding source would have to be identified to support the programming. The funding for the coalition work could not be used toward providing direct services.

Larry mentioned that the underage drinking continues to decline while the drug arrests, etc. continue to increase. (Attached November Arrest Report)

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2014, at Noon in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Avera St. Mary's Hospital.

There being no other business; the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Ruby L. Douglas, Project Director

**Sector Member Representatives:** *Cheryl Arguello, Captain Elton Blemaster, Carmella Bourk, Amy Fowler, Dr.Kelly Glodt, Andrea Klein-Knox, Michelle Bowman, Cindy Bahe, Diana Melvin, Barbara Rohrbach, Norma Tibbs and Cassidy Fosheim.*

**Subject: Newest Bully definition**

Below is the most recent definition for bullying and below that is the link for the full article. Some may want to look at building policy, I think same for all and possibly revise for next fall if felt it is needed??? For years bullying has been misinterpreted and I believe this definition is much better than what has been out there in the past. "Student Conflict" is much different than bullying and many parents often lump into just bullying, I am glad to see the verbage of "repeated multiple times" or "highly likely to be repeated" added. The uniform definition describes bullying as "any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths who are not siblings or current dating partners that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated."

It adds: "Bullying may inflict harm or distress on the targeted youth including physical, psychological, social, or educational harm" and that the behaviors could be verbal, physical, or relational. Relational bullying includes attempts to damage a peer's relationships or reputation through ignoring, isolating, or spreading defamatory information.

What distinguishes the new definition most from current approaches is its emphasis not just on repeated behaviors, but also behaviors that are likely to be repeated, Ms. Temkin said. <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2014/10/08/07bullying.h34.html>

## Parents Matter Coalition

Summary Report to the Board (from open planning session on Nov. 14, 2014)

Prepared by Theresa Riggs, RN, for presentation Dec. 9, 2014

20 participants were in attendance, not including the presenter and the project director, for a total of 22.

Those attendees represented local business, education, healthcare, social service agencies, law enforcement, state and local government, youth services, parents and grandparents

The objectives of the session were that:

"By the end of this hour session, each participant will be able to:

- define his/her spheres of influence regarding Pierre/Ft. Pierre adolescents
- discuss her/his perceptions of concerns regarding that target population
- determine at least one personal strategy for being a "positive influencer"
- identify the cultural concerns in Ft. Pierre/Pierre and strategies to influence change for the better
- identify possible additional sources of funding to achieve the organization's goals
- continue the process for change beyond this session"

A variety of activities at each of the nine tables and as a group were used to reach the objectives. As the first three objectives are more personal in nature, they are not addressed in this summary except to say that the evaluations turned in at the closing of the session indicated from 100% of the attendees that each objective was achieved.

From the table discussions of *perceptions of concerns* regarding the four behaviors given (adolescent alcohol use, use of other drugs, bullying and suicide), the group consensus activity yielded the following in order of priority (lowest # of points = highest concern)

Suicide	15 points
Bullying	17 points
"Other" drugs (not alcohol)	26 points
Alcohol	32 points

Regarding the charge *to identify the cultural concerns in Ft. Pierre/Pierre and strategies to influence change for the better*, the following cultural concerns were noted\* (in order of priority)

\* *there was much crossover/duplication of cultural concerns and strategies among the four behaviors, so the following are combined, paraphrased comments*

### Cultural concerns

1. Social media effects

2. Peer pressure
3. Loss (includes of a loved one, status, social acceptance, finances)
4. Parenting and other family issues
5. Acceptance of drug and alcohol as normal for experimentation and use
6. Availability of alcohol and other drugs (including from family members)
7. Lack of services for mental illness/substance abuse
8. Lack of education regarding prevalence of concerns
9. Lack of response in schools

### **Strategies/potential solutions**

1. Train social media mentors and provide education about social media (especially for parents, teachers, other influential adults)
2. Raise awareness of the importance of their role-modeling behaviors to influential adults
3. Provide more activity resources for adolescents and their families to do together
4. Engage adolescents in more community service, faith-based activities, etc
5. Work on policy change for stricter consequences for law violations
6. Influence decision-makers regarding need for mental illness resources/funding
7. Educate parents, teachers, and general public regarding bullying behaviors (how to recognize and intervene appropriately), signs of depression/suicidal tendencies and where to refer, and substance abuse indicators and resources
8. Support k-12 school programs that improve student mental and emotional health and resiliency
9. More liquor store sting operations, parent education on under-age drinking

**Brainstorming from the group on *"identify possible additional sources of funding to achieve the organization's goals"* resulted in the looking at the following: (in no order)**

- Service club donations/fund-raising collaboration
- Involve local businesses and policymakers as funding sources
- Collaborate with youth programs
- Community, state and federal grants

**And, finally, to *"continue the process for change beyond this session,"* attendees were invited to:**

1. Contact Ruby Douglas or Larry Weiss if they desired to be more involved in the coalition as a board member/general member
2. Determine if the session objectives had been met to their satisfaction
3. Follow-up on their personal strategies and widen their spheres of influence

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of addressing these matters to the Board. ☺ tr

# Pierre Police Department

## November 2014 Arrest Report

(Submitted by Captain Elton Blemaster)

DUI (1st):	12
DUI (2nd):	4
DUI (3rd or more):	0
Zero Tolerance DUI:	0
Open Container in a Motor Vehicle:	5
Underage Consumption of Alcohol:	3
Furnishing Alcohol:	2
Common Nuisance – Place where Liquor Laws are Violated:	0
Ingesting:	8
Possession of Marijuana:	2
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia:	5
Possession of Marijuana with the Intent to Deliver:	1
Possession of a Controlled Drug or Substance:	0
Total Drug and Alcohol Arrests:	42

