

The Learning Cornerstone
Community Advisory Committee Meeting
February 14, 2005

Attending:

Sonja Banyacya - NAU
Virginia K Begay –SWRO/DSS Dilcon
Phil Bluehouse – Ganado Unified School
June Curtis – NDWD Greasewood
Roxanne Dean – Affiliation of AZ Indian Center
Claude Endfield – NPC Early Childhood Education
Bobbi Faulkner – Snowflake Headstart
Heidi Fulcher – NPC Dean of Developmental Services
Heidi Hatch – Head Start Holbrook
Sharon Macedo – Navajo County WIA
Lisa Maestas – Head Start Snowflake
Lisa Marling – NPC – TLC Special Sites Coordinator/Instructor
Sonia Moring – Navajo County WIA
Debbie Thomes – Snowflake Headstart
Cathy Whitehorn – Whitecone, Cedar Public School

A. **Minutes of November 4, 2004** were approved with one correction made by Claude Endfield {July 2004 conference at Sunrise was “5” days, not “3-4” days}

B. NPC Report:

- Fy05 ABE participation status:
 - Approximately 450 NPC students are entered in the State ABE database; 358 have attended the 12+ hours required to be counted in the State reports. 30.7% have made “educational gains”. All Arizona ABE programs must reach the state goal of 42% educational gains by June 30 to retain funding eligibility. NPC met the 42% goal last year and the data looks like consistent with meeting that goal again this year.
 - This spring 134 students have received ABE Scholarships; they are enrolled in 592 credits. [see ABE Scholarships spring 2005 report]. \$20,167 was spent for fall 2004 scholarships and \$15,202 has been spent for spring 2005 scholarships. \$10,000 is reserved for Summer I scholarships. [see ABE tuition budget report]
 - Overall approximately \$145,000 of our \$264,000 ABE grant budget has been spent.
- Fy 06 budget outlook:
 - FY 06 grant awards are uncertain. This year adult education has remained in the State budget, but President Bush’s proposed budget may reduce federal adult education funds by 67%. Stakeholders are urged to contact President Bush and Vice President Cheney to register their concern. If

adult education loses federal funding, state funding is also apt to be lost: one of the rationales adult education has presented to our legislators in previous years for continued funding, is that cutting state funds will result in the loss of matching federal dollars.

- New hires & vacancies:
 - Committee members met Dr. Lisa Marling. Lisa began at NPC Whiteriver in the first week of January. She has relocated here from Ohio to serve as the ABE Special Sites Coordinator / Instructor at Whiteriver. We hope to improve outreach to the White Mountain Apache Tribe.
 - Patty Barber, ABE Special Sites Coordinator / Instructor for the Hopi area left us in January. That position is vacant and advertised.
- Special projects:
 - The Arizona Systems Ready/Child Ready project is in its second year. This project was developed by ASU and includes 5 Arizona community colleges. It uses a learning community model to encourage early childhood educators to complete the core English and math portions of their degree requirements. Participants completed the math and English components spring 2004 and fall 2004. Spring 2005 students may elect to complete additional math and English courses (college level or TLC level) under the grant as long as their total credits do not exceed 7.5. 72 of the 75 NPC participants are still active in the project. Two students will graduate this May.

C. **Navajo County WIA Report** – Sharon Macedo

- 2 WIA clients have recently passed the GED. WIA and NPC plan to partner again this summer to offer GED Plus classes at Winslow and Show Low.
- WIA has helped NAVIT students with tool costs for welding. They are able to assist eligible cosmetology students too.

D. **Member Reports:**

- **Snowflake Head Start**
 - Bobbi Faulkner – Has openings for home-based instruction. Home-based works with the parent(s) more than the child. There are no additional qualifiers beyond the usual Head Start low income status.
 - Debbie Thomes – Home-based service can be a good intervention strategy. Weekly goals and activities are developed/provided.
 - Lisa Maestas – Headstart is placing an emphasis on parent education.
- **NPC Early Childhood Development Program, Claude Endfield**
 - ECD program offers an AGS degree in and a Certificate of Applied Science. An Associates of Applied Science (AAS) degree is available in several areas of specialization including infant/toddler and early childhood management. Classes are provided on-site at childcare centers countywide.
 - There is also a program for educational assistants who are striving to meet the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) mandates. NCLB due date is 2006.

- Head Start mandates require 50% of teachers have a certificate and 50% have an associate degree. The next mandate will probably require a BA.
- ECD students needing childcare scholarships should contact Claude.
- Claude mentioned a need for service in the Window Rock area.
- Holbrook Head Start, Heidi Hatch – Has active GED students.
- Dilkon Social Services, Virginia Begay – Virginia is new to this position in Dilkon. She needs to establish a relationship with Navajo Department of Workforce Development.
- Whitecone High School, Cathy Whitehorn – Construction of the new high school at Whitecone is relatively on schedule. The walls are up and the school will open in July 2005. They are recruiting teachers and expect 250 students their first year.
- NPC TLC at Whiteriver, Dr. Lisa Marling – Whiteriver Center is a busy place. Lisa has returned to Arizona from Ohio, where she just recently completed her doctorate degree.
- Ganado Unified School District #20, Dr. Phil Bluehouse – Ganado is interested in providing an adult high school diploma. Currently NPC and Ganado Schools are working on an MOA – attorneys are reviewing. The School approached Dine College, but they currently have no funding to provide adult basic education services. Dr. Bluehouse recommends a presentation by Ruby Payne, author of Framework for Understanding Poverty. Dr. Payne will present a workshop March 22-24 in Albuquerque, Bridging out of Poverty. Learn more at: <http://ahaprocess.com>
- Navajo Department of Workforce Development (Greasewood sub-office), June Curtis – Recruiting clients for education and work experience.
- Arizona Affiliation of Indian Centers (Winslow), Roxanne Dean – Office is located at DES one-stop in Winslow. Provides WIA services for off-reservation Navajos.
- Navajo County WIA (Show Low), Sonia Mooring – Sonia is the new youth case manager.
- Equal Opportunity Centers, Sonja Banyacya – EOC is a TRIO grant through Northern Arizona University. Sonja serves Navajo and Apache Counties. EOC can provide vouchers for GED test fees. EOC promotes post-secondary education to adults.

E. Next Meeting date and location was set for 11:00-1:00 MST, Monday, May 2, 2005 at the Community Education Center (NPC Holbrook). Lunch will be provided.