

CUSP Education Committee Meeting Minutes for February 20, 2020

Idaho Falls Public Library Room 2

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

Those in attendance- Tomm Larson, Marie Giraud, Christine Leusch, Margaret Wimborne, Pat Tucker, Michaelena Hix, Catherine Black, Kylie Dixon, and Sarah Cherry

Introductions were made, including meeting our new committee chair, Michaelena Hix.

District 91 Kindergarten Program- Kylie Dixon (Principal at Sunnyside Elementary) and Sarah Cherry (Assistant Principal at Sunnyside Elementary) came to present on their new full day kindergarten option for this year, as well as other programs being used within the district. (Please see the attached handout)

The problem local schools are facing is that first graders are not arriving prepared and possessing the skills they need. Sunnyside has started a pay-to-participate option for their Kindergarteners. Parents can opt to pay \$275/month for full day Kindergarten with a certified teacher. Approximately one third of the students are participating in this program.

Temple View and Bush Elementary schools have a new program that enrolls all Kindergarten students in a full day schedule. Half of the day is with a certified teacher, and the other half is with a para professional. This is paid for with Title 1 and K-3 money.

The remaining elementary schools in District 91 have an extended day program. Students scoring a 2-3 on the IRI have extended time with a para professional in addition to the half day with the certified teacher. This program varies from school to school and is paid for with Title 1 and K-3 money.

Pat Tucker's presentation was postponed and will take place next meeting

United Way Education opportunities- Christine Leusch came and explained ways that United Way is involved with education. (Please see the three attached handouts she provided.) They have just started a "SOAR" program for 4th-6th graders who are recommended due to issues with poor attendance or behavior. Attendance in SOAR is voluntary, and is held at Hawthorne Elementary after school 2 days per week. Students are paired with mentors that listen to them and participate in activities. They are seeking grants to expand this program.

They are also hoping to pilot another program this summer called Kindergarten Bootcamp to help get Pre-K students more prepared for Kindergarten.

Focus Areas and Priorities Discussion- It is important that in our next couple meetings we narrow our focus to create a few recommendations. We can then spend remaining months studying, supporting, and clarifying these recommendations before submitting them to the Mayor. We will try to meet every two weeks to meet this objective and avoid meeting often in the busy months of summer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08

The next meeting will be March 10, 2020 at the Idaho Falls Public Library Rm 2 at 6:30pm
A meeting had also been calendared for March 24, 2020 in the same location at 6:30pm

2019 Community Assessment for ALICE

• **41%** of Eastern Idaho are working hard and struggling to survive. They are **ALICE**.

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

• **7** county service region of United Way of Idaho Falls and Bonneville County is Bonneville, Clark, Fremont, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton

• **3,068** data points were collected through Surveys and Community Conversations

• **3 Focus Areas:**

HEALTH: Access to health care promotes wellness for all ages

EDUCATION: Quality education is essential to earning a living wage

FINANCIAL STABILITY: Improving financial stability leads to increased independence

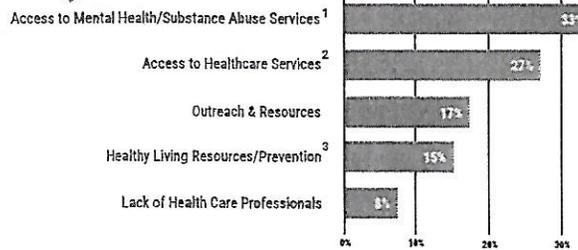
• **2 Outcomes:** Fostering collaboration and partnerships for action

• **1 Priority:** Help **ALICE**

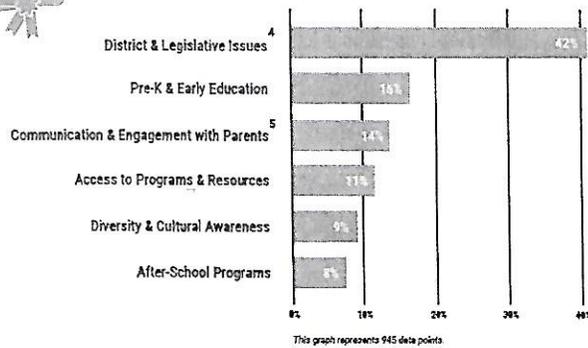
Top Five Issues



HEALTH



EDUCATION



FINANCIAL STABILITY



CRADLE TO CAREER

Mobilize Resources

Financial Resources

Volunteers & Community Engagement

Convene/Collective Impact

Build Stronger Communities

Direct services and supports

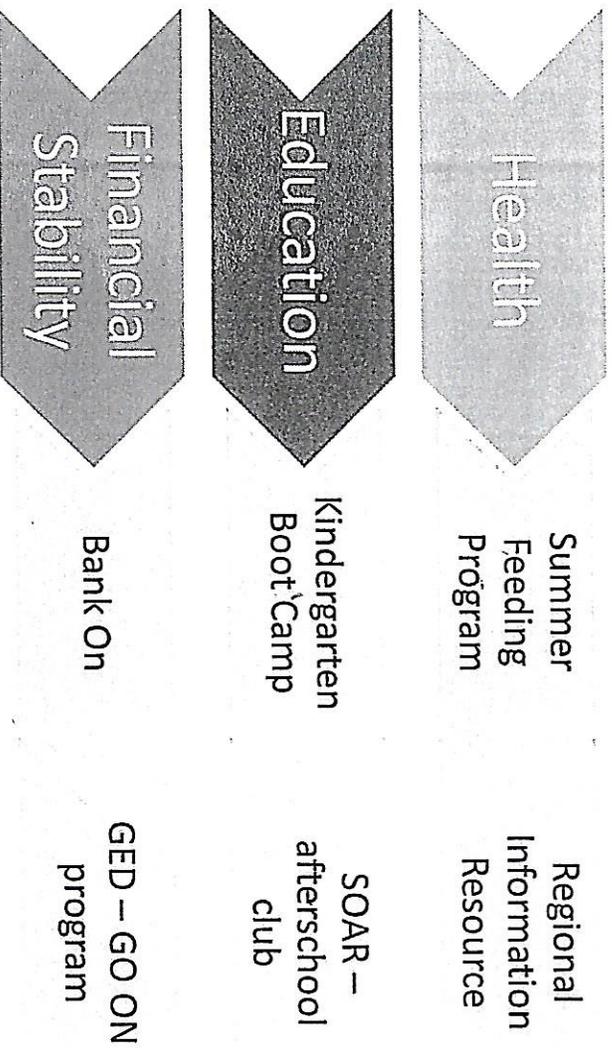
Partnerships with Idaho Business for Education, IdahoAETC, IDHW, School Districts, Regional Businesses, Federal Reserve, state and regional grants and foundations

Systems Improvement

Increased community capacity via training, partnership, convening, and resource development

Goals driven by the 2019 UW

Community Assessment Report



D91 Kindergarten

Problem:

- Students are showing up for kindergarten and are not well prepared in early literacy (print concepts, phonological awareness), math skills and social interaction.

Goal:

- Reading: To have all students beginning reading by the time they leave kindergarten (blending and segmenting words.)
- Math: To have all students understanding count sequences, count to tell the number of objects, comparing numbers and basic addition and subtraction.
- Personal responsibility, self direction and logical thinking.

Obstacles in Kindergarten right now:

- Half-day kindergarten is only 2.5 hours daily (14 hours a week)
- 2 hours of specials a week (PE, Music, Art, Library)= 12 hour a week for instruction
- Curriculum is built for all day kindergarten- difficult to fit into 2.5 hours.
- Students are coming in lacking social interaction with other students.
- Teachers need time to address responsibility, following directions and other adaptive skills while still meeting academic standards.

D91 Solutions

- Pay to Participate Model
 - Sunnyside
- Extended Day Model
 - Bush and Temple View
- Extended Day Model (based on student data)
 - Remaining Schools

What we have noticed so far:

- All Models:
 - Students are exhibiting responsibility, following directions and other adaptive skills far sooner in the school year.
 - Students are getting more opportunities to produce pieces of writing.
 - Students are getting more opportunities to practice effective social interactions with peers.
 - There is time for remediation instead of just differentiation.
 - Teachers are able to utilize more of the adopted curriculum.
 - Students are meeting end of year standards mid-year.
 - Available time to address social studies and science.

2019 UNITED WAY GRANT PROGRAMS



HEALTH

SANE/Forensic Exams & Support Staff
 DV/SAC
 \$54,000

Smoke Detectors & Disaster Services
 Red Cross
 \$20,000

Program Staff
 Community Food Basket & Soup Kitchen
 \$45,000

Health, Wellness & Nutrition
 Head Start/Early Head Start, EICAP
 \$10,000

Meals on Wheels & Congregate Meals
 Idaho Falls, S. Fremont &
 Madison Senior Centers
 \$49,500

Food Bank
 Family Crisis Center
 \$18,000

Food Pantry
 Salvation Army
 \$12,200

Case Manager Forums
 \$6,000



EDUCATION

GED Program
 Haven Shelter
 \$19,000

Drop-In Center Staff
 Club Inc.
 \$15,000

Education Materials
 DARE
 \$5,000

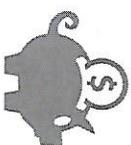
Volunteer Coordinator
 Center for Hope
 \$45,000

Early Head Start Scholarships
 E. Idaho Community Action Partnership
 \$10,000

Program Staff
 Girl Scouting
 \$9,500

Vocational Scholarships,
 Development Workshop
 \$24,800

Early Education Initiative
 \$5,000



FINANCIAL STABILITY

Project HVAC, Electrical & Plumbing
 Habitat for Humanity
 \$11,500

End of Live & Bereavement Care
 Hospice of Eastern Idaho
 \$21,500

Homemaker & Chore Program
 E. Idaho Community Action Partnership
 \$9,000

Guardianship & Family Unification
 Idaho Legal Aid
 \$15,000

Senior Tutor Stipend
 Foster Grandparents of SE Idaho
 \$5,000

Prescription Drug Assistance
 Salvation Army
 \$5,000

Rent & Utility Assistance
 Salvation Army
 \$35,000

Bank-On Initiative
 \$6,000

