

AOC Youth Development subcommittee meeting
October 13, 3:30 pm
Centennial Hall

In attendance: Alison Dunlap – 7 Circles; Stephanie Weddell – Boys and Girls Club; Willow Griffin – SAIL; Ryan Kauffman – Community Schools Peer Helpers; Elias Anglin – student, Peer Helpers; Hedy Peterson – student, 7 Circles; Chris Bryner – Sheldon Jackson College; Doug Osbourne – SEARHC; Louise Brady – STA Social Services; Sheryle Shepard – school counselor; Curt Ledford – Community Schools; Matthew Turner – AOC

Based on the work of the last committee meeting, the group brainstormed activities focused on the topic of Positive Self-Image of Sitka Youth. Those activities were clustered into 3 main groups:

1. Celebrating and acknowledging the youth community.
2. Opportunities for work and service
3. A place for youth empowerment

See the attached table for specific ideas in each of these areas.

At the next meeting, three teams will each choose one of these groups and develop a three-month action plan to build those objectives. Currently, the committee's participation level is low, and the group is hoping to attract more involvement.

Ideally, people who get involved will be specifically interested in these goals/ideals and willing to dedicate time and effort taking action on them in the next three months.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 3:30-5:00 pm at Centennial Hall.

TOPIC: Positive Self Image of Sitka Youth

What practical steps can we take to build/enhance the positive self-image of Sitka youth?

Providing Opportunities for Work and Service				
Employment-based Social Enterprise	More information on occupational opportunities for youth	Youth Apprentices	Service Learning Opportunities District wide	Low Ropes Challenge Course
Celebrating and Acknowledging the Youth Community				
Diversity Curriculum in all schools	Contact key adults to spread the message of the importance of self-image	Routine acknowledgement of all youth	Invite youth leaders with similar initiatives to come to Sitka	Bring youth together for assemblies/ activities
Building Youth Empowerment and Place				
Intergenerational mentoring/ activities	Good Samaritan Youth Group	Spotlight on Youth – weekly bio of a youth in paper	Photo/Art display by youth	Drama Group to present issues at community functions
Positive Youth Statistics	A time, way, and place for youth to hang out with adults	A place to go and hang out where youth have ownership	identify/ formalize group and develop/ implement action plan (United Forces?)	Give ALL youth an opportunity to express their wants and needs
Reactivate Youth Committee (community activities planned by youth)	Use revenue from youth events to support youth club/center			
(ideas from our previous meeting – they need a name or incorporated into the other groups)				
Create a focus group of PHS students to identify activity barriers	have a community-wide TOPS training	Build public awareness of existing programs and activities	Provide outlet to publish student work	Look for new activities for youth
Create youth map of activities	Challenge all organizations that have youth activities to outreach to youth			