

**Center for Family Supportive Schools and Communities**  
**Project Faculty Meeting Notes**  
**November 26, 2007**  
**10:30-1 PM, MH 350**

**Attendees:** Larry Marrs, Chair, David Carroll, Kris McDuffy, Kris Slentz, Bridget Kelley, John Korsmo, Sharon Jeffers (staff)

**Unable to attend:** LeAnne Robinson, Ray Wolpow, Mitchell Jancic

**What's next? Who can do it?**

**Possible Initiatives:**

- School district focus on system-wide PD on family engagement
- Principal PD program on family/community engagement
- Education/Human Services summer institute linking family engagement with math/science/literacy, etc student learning
- Offer PD for school board members on student learning resulting from family engagement
- Expand the CFSSC website with plentiful resources for students, faculty, teachers, families, et al
- Identify specific local (Whatcom & Skagit Counties) schools/personnel which could be resources for others related to family engagement strategies
- Link with CEP for family involvement resources and activities
- A clearinghouse page on CFSSC website for listing faculty projects; others working on similar projects may cross reference or collaborate and at least be aware

**Comments:**

- Emphasis the importance of Superintendents and Principals focused on family engagement; it HAS to start at the top
- Communities in Schools is collaborating with CFSSC; please reflect on how you want to participate
- When introducing/encouraging family engagement, check out what is already happening in schools (by district) and add a robust component to that which is already in place. Leaders and teachers are overwhelmed with WHATS NEW that regularly crosses their desk.
- Human Services regularly works in concert with families and may offer useful additional tools
- Convene Elementary principals and let them talk to each other – NETWORK and share, challenges and solutions – and the special education directors as well; usually, they are a team
- Kris McDuffy mentioned that the templates from the Achieving Family Friendly Schools Toolkit (distributed to each department last winter) have been valuable to principal training
- Family Engagement is a good topic for presentation to all PEAB groups
- Financial resources for such an event – approach the school districts that will send teams and pay for them (no cost to the individual)

- The Ed Summits run by WCE in 2003-2004 were successful – very interactive – contacts were made; Sehome HS was the venue (good parking!)
- The professional development offerings need to be a year-long effort, ongoing, monthly? Quarterly?
- St Luke’s Health Education Center is a great venue, large room, several breakout rooms, good parking
- Should we plan an Ed Summit for Spring 2008? (Participation is better during the school year.) In the past they have been an opportunity to speak to the State of the College and to ask “How can we help?” This one could deliberately focus on family engagement practices.