

WAKEFIELD BUSINESS ALLIANCE: MEETING MINUTES-01/11/07

Dee Parson-Grange has completed her role as chairman for the Alliance. In the spring, Meeting dates will change to Wednesday mornings. Look for next meeting date.

GRADUATION PROJECT - 2010

Presentation made by Wake County Schools on Graduation Project 2010

Brochure handed out and available at Wake County Public School System

High School Programs
3600 Wake Forest Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-850-1793

Highlights:

1. The Graduation Project has four components: Research Paper, Portfolio, Tangible Product, Oral Presentation
2. Steps in completing project: Brainstorm, Focus, Implement, Evaluation, Reflection - classes will assist in this.
3. Service Learning applies academic content and skills in a real – life context.

Students will begin projects in 9th grade and work through all 4 yrs of high school to complete.

Barbara Wiggins is a part of a task force that addresses:

- How to create a system
- What can the relationship be with community and Business Alliance Members?
- How do we recruit the community, PTSA organizations, civic clubs etc?

Note: Southeast Raleigh High School is currently doing a version of the graduation project.

Wakefield High School is developing model with creation of Freshman Academy, junior year – English Teachers will help with writing portfolio, use of advisory classes to assist in work. Just a few examples of how the school will work with students.

Concerns: The silent minority of students that struggle in classes and school. Parent support and guidance for some of these students is lacking. Community groups, civic organizations and tutor/mentors will need to address these issues and help these students.

School Reports:

Wakefield High School – Mark Savage, newly appointed Principal, as of Jan. 2, 2007.

Ninth Grade Center – June 7 deadline for obtaining keys to building.
Recruiting staff currently. Bus routes being worked on.
Principal named-Anthony Muttillo

Career Assessments currently going on ...1/2 of sophomore class complete.

Freshman class complete

Juniors – March and April

Seniors – Financial Aid resources available

Wakefield Middle School – Wendell Evans, Asst. Principal

Jan. 17 was the Mock Writing test
Semester closes/new term Jan. 29

New principal named: Tripp Crayton (formerly Asst. Principal at Wakefield High)

Career Development Coordinators:

Ellie Watkins, Middle School reported:

* Feb 2 is Job Shadow day. 90% of 8th graders participated last year.

* Career College Day – March 23.

Currently recruiting speakers, three 45 min presentations at the Middle School in a workshop format. Need 75 – 80 presenters.

* Business Alliance Brochure is ready to print..in need of funds for costs

Barbara Wiggins, High School reported:

* Rex Hospital donated \$5000 to fund Poe Center's Drug Education program – Think First for all 9th grade Health students in January.

Business Alliance Web page connected to www.wakefieldhs.net will provide you with Information about alliance, events, meeting dates and minutes. A business alliance member needs to keep the page current and work with Career Development Coordinators.

* Extreme Beginnings Job Fair- April 12 (a Wake County event)

Need roundtable presenters and mock interviewers.

Stress to students, career pathways to consider, company background checks done, students responsible for finding their own internship for program.

* Friday Career Fairs are held in February and March:

Over 100 Business professionals come over 8 weeks. Some work with students in classroom before the lunch sessions. Last year, implemented the Hand-to-Hand contact. Students engage with professionals by making eye contact, shaking hands and asking questions.

List of dates given:	Feb 2	Public Service
	Feb 9	Commercial Arts
	Feb 16	Business
	Feb 23	Health
	Mar 2	Biological/Chemical
	Mar 9	Agriculture
	Mar 16	Construction
	Mar 23	Engineering

Contact Barbara Wiggins if you are interested in setting up a booth. She can connect you with Alliance member leads for each date.

PTSA Report: Character Education committee currently developing Safe Driving program for school and surrounding High Schools. Re- working the video completed last year from Alive at 25 program. This new video incorporates that footage, news clips and footage along with new information, and statistics. It addresses the inexperience of student drivers and goes through a series of obstacles they face and how to overcome them. **JUST THINK FIRST – CHOICES COUNT** is the slogan for the program. A powerful public service announcement from Ireland – No Excuses, Seat Belt commercial can be viewed on www.wakefieldhs.net / PTSA Alive at 25 box.

Review:

1. Community Groups needed for Graduation Project – 2010 Wake County Schools
2. Career College – Middle school – March 23. Need speakers
3. Friday Fairs – High School – Feb and Mar. Need companies/professionals
4. Extreme Beginnings – April 12 – Mock Interviewers and roundtable presenters

5. Business Alliance Web page – need Alliance Member to take on keeping page updated.