



Gaithersburg

A CHARACTER COUNTS!

CITY OF GAITHERSBURG

Education Enrichment Committee

June 11, 2010

Attendees: Teresa Wright, Laurene Thomas, Mike Fandey, Jim Simpson, Yvette Monroe. **City staff:** Tim Smith and Maureen Herndon

Absences: Ellie Eldridge, Rick Carder, Tom Curtis, Carol Goddard, Mark Ezrin, Marion Perry, Pauleze Bryant and Mike Bucci

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM at Community Services

I. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

A. Welcome and Introduction:

Committee welcomed its newest member Yvette Monroe.

B. Planning for the Principals/Counselors/PTA Appreciation Breakfast:

The event is scheduled for August 26, 2010. At the next EEC meeting the agenda will be developed and the committee agreed to make this year's event interactive, similar, to last year's format.

C. National CHARACTER COUNTS! Program:

Began planning for National CHARACTER COUNTS! Week on October 18-22, 2010. Volunteers are needed to judge the student essays and posters submitted for the National CC! Week contest on Friday, October 1, 2010. Committee members should sign-up to be judges with Shanthi at 301-258-6328 ext. 3.

Nomination for Person of Character Award:

Smitty submitted two volunteers for consideration that have been instrumental in the development of the City's Camp Scholarship fund. Staff will contact one reference for additional information as per the Person of Character guidelines. Committee will review the Person of Character Applications on an ongoing basis as nominations are submitted..

Marion Perry submitted information for the committee to consider expanding the CHARACTER COUNTS! program to include an annual photography contest that has previously only been offered to students attending Quince Orchard High School. The committee approved integrating the photo contest into the CHARACTER COUNTS! events for the fall of 2010 with the stipulation that it is offered to all three 10% high schools: Quince Orchard; Gaithersburg; and Watkins Mill.

D. EDUCATION ISSUES:

The Committee continued with discussion and review of research regarding predicating factors that support High School graduation and success of City High School students. Statistics were reviewed from the Montgomery County Public Schools, report for each of the three City High Schools: Watkins Mill; Gaithersburg; Quince Orchard. Research will continue in preparation for the EEC's next meeting and encompass: reviewing County statistics;

consulting with the MCPS Taskforce; and assess the summary of Collaboration Council findings and other resources. Further, staff will develop a spreadsheet of High Schools and the nonprofit programs offered on-site and capture for the City's 10% schools the 3rd grade reading levels since this is seen as an indicator of High School success. Research will continue through August and the Principals' Breakfast and the findings will lead to the determination of FY12 City School Grant priority areas.

II. **NEXT MEETING:** Friday, August 13, 2010 at 7:30 AM at Community Services

Note: Committee voted to have meetings through the rest of the calendar year, on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 AM and not continue alternating between morning and evening meetings

II. **ADJOURNMENT:**
The meeting was adjourned at (time). 8:15 AM

Respectfully submitted by,

Maureen Herndon
Program Manager
Community Services