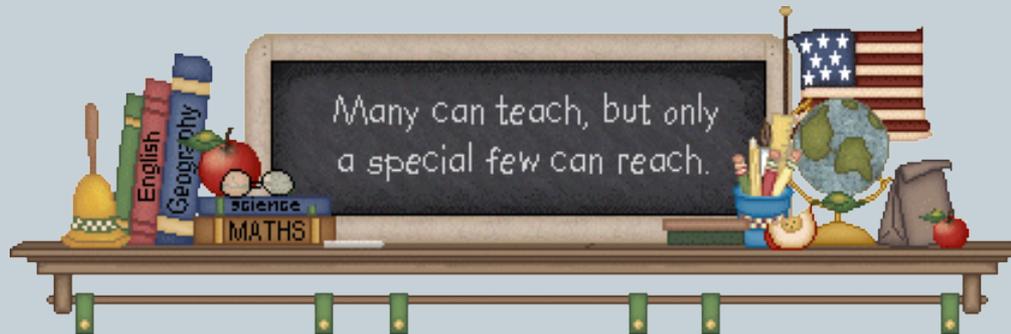


City of Gaithersburg Educational Enrichment Committee



**Mayor and City Council
Annual Presentation
Monday, December 9, 2013**



Mission Statement



“To foster a climate of educational excellence, enrichment, and character development within the Gaithersburg community.”





Work Plan: Element 1

To initiate and implement the City's annual grant program to support school initiatives demonstrating measurable results

- Committee reviews annual School Grant applications, processes input regarding needs articulated by educational community, and makes funding recommendations.
- City staff reviews annual outcomes reports and coordinates visits.
- \$51,467 awarded in FY14 to 19 schools for programs that promote one or more of three key strategies:
 1. Academic success
 2. Positive school environments that are conducive to learning
 3. Parent and community involvement in the schools



Work Plan: Element 1

- Committee reviews annual School Nonprofit Grants, processes input regarding needs articulated at site visits, and makes funding recommendations.
- City staff reviews quarterly outcomes reports and coordinates site visits.
- \$ 125,991 awarded in FY14 School Nonprofit Grants to:
 - BROTHERS, Family Services, Inc. and Gaithersburg HS
 - Early Head Start, Family Services, Inc.
 - Identity, Inc. and Forest Oak MS
 - G-SHARP and Gaithersburg HS and Forest Oak MS
 - Liberty's Promise, Inc. and Gaithersburg HS
 - UCF, Inc. and Forest Oak MS



Work Plan: Element 1



FY13 Completed:

- Developed a clearer application, with budget sheets in Excel and precise instructions.
- Clearly defined the committee review process.
- Offered GREAT monies to all clusters, with an emphasis on mentoring programs.
- Offered grants workshop.



Work Plan: Element 1

FY14 To Do:

- Require grants orientation workshop.
- Continue research re: GHS Wellness Center and service coordination.
- Research online application feasibility.
- Encourage GREAT recognitions and HS and MS applications for funds.
- Develop committee procedures document and school liaison job description.
- Highlight school best practices and successes on City website.
- Reorganize Principals Appreciation activity with more committee involvement. Increase networking opportunities and consider adding a nonprofit resource “fair.”



Work Plan: Element 2



To initiate and implement the City's CHARACTER COUNTS! (CC!) Program

School Year 2013-2014 – Continuation of CC! Revitalization

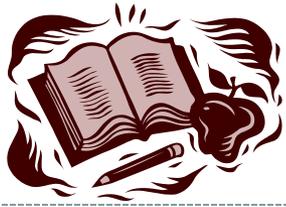
- Increase outreach and partnerships with City Departments, businesses and community organizations.
- Promote best practice models, past scholarships and recognition of participating schools.
- Enhance activities – City website, video, social media, program outcomes, application, promotion and processing of awards, PR materials, donor opportunities.
- Share best practices with neighboring CC! Coalition members.
- Promote/expand donations for scholarship program.

Work Plan: Element 2



“Celebrating CC! in the Community and through Service” October 2013 Highlights

- CC! Proclamation –Kick off and “Pillar a Day” (via City website, ad in the Gazette, PR material).
- Student essay/poster contests announced and new photography contest for high school students launched.
- Promotion/partnership of Community Service Days with Montgomery County Volunteer Center.
- Community service volunteer, outreach and intergenerational events with City Student Union (1,100 total attendance).
- Veterans support workshop with Serving Together, Inc.

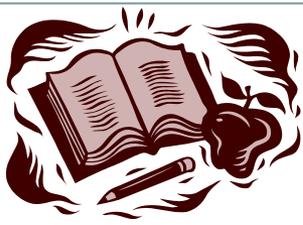


Work Plan: Element 3



To advocate for the expansion of successful educational efforts throughout the Gaithersburg community

- Display and promote City-supported grant programs at annual City-sponsored school breakfast and at school visits.
- Promote school successes through the GREAT Program and media outlets including new City website.
- Collect wish list and volunteer needs from the schools and post on the City's website.
- Use liaisons more effectively to increase communication with schools, especially regarding scholarship opportunities, community events and client services.
- Continue partnerships with the Youth Opportunities Coalition and City of Gaithersburg Youth and Senior Services Division.



Work Plan: Element 3



- Increase outreach, linkages between schools and businesses.
- Promote and support parental involvement initiatives.
- Continue work with MCPS Chief Engagement and Partnership Officer, cluster coordinators & MCPS grants office.
- Continue to work with the MD CASH, CAFÉ Montgomery, Bank on Gaithersburg and MCPS on Financial Wellness initiatives in the schools.
- Develop, foster partnerships with the Universities at Shady Grove.
- Host information session about county-wide grant opportunities for schools.
- Research with Youth and Senior Services Division the possibility of a community-wide Youth and Family Fair.

Work Plan: Element 4



To enhance and maintain lines of communication between Mayor and City Council and the Committee

Make an annual presentation at a Mayor and City Council work session and maintain communication with M&CC Liaison.



Work Plan: Element 5



To promote working relationships between City businesses, faith-based community, nonprofits, and schools

- Ongoing information sharing and linkages continue to be developed between the schools, the community and volunteer entities through the annual GREAT school supply drive, SCUP Conference, City nonprofit grants program, City departments, and the Youth Opportunities Coalition.
- Staff outreach efforts to businesses, nonprofits and congregations extended to include the needs of schools.



Where Do We Go From Here?



Input from Principals/Counselors/PTA Breakfast

Priority Topic Areas 2012 & 2013

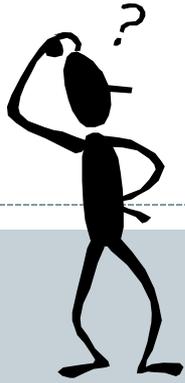
- Fiscal and personnel needs required to run mentorship programs.
- Need for collaboration across schools and ages.
- “Getting started” and “best practices” trainings.
- Replication/access to the City’s Student Union Teen Program model.

- **Gaithersburg Cluster 2012**: Host a Community-wide kickoff event that includes all area schools. Develop programs that allow high school students to mentor at the middle school level. Replicate the City’s Student Union model at the middle school level.
- **2013**: Increase reminders and information about City events and contests. Parental outreach support including translators. Replication of GES/Asbury intergenerational mentoring and CC! program.

Where Do We Go From Here?



- **Quince Orchard – Wootton Clusters 2012**: Address the need for better measurement tools. Additional City support through human resources and discounts to City facilities. Tap into the talents of the City's Student Union members, training them as mentors. Need for increased mentorship at the middle school level.
- **2013**: Increased outreach to QO Cluster by staff. Transportation needs for after school programs. Continued support for new Hispanic liaison positions.
- **Watkins Mill Cluster**: Use current staff to set up weekly mentoring check ins with at-risk students. Implement mentoring sessions during school hours to avoid challenges like cost and transportation. Replicate the City's Student Union model in other areas. Increase the City Liaison's role to assist in making connections with the schools, businesses and organizations.



How are we doing?



Questions and Ideas?

1. Are the mission and elements of the Committee aligned with the mission of the City and its role with the schools?
2. What is the best avenue for proposing an increase in the school grant funding pool?
3. What elements should be added? Deleted?
4. In what ways can the Committee improve and serve as a better resource to M&CC and to the schools?
5. Other ideas? Additional information needed?

Thank You!



Your input and ideas are most welcomed!

Educational Enrichment Committee Members:

Mike Bucci*

David Chase, Co-chair

Ellie Eldredge

Mark Ezrin

Barbara Kupperman

Yvette Monroe*, Co-chair

Andrew Platt

Llacey Simmons

James M. Simpson

Laurene Thomas*

Teresa Wright

CHARACTER COUNTS! Subcommittee: *

Amy Lipman, Sharon Mears, Maura Dinwiddie, Sheila Bouley

Educational Enrichment Liaisons and Staff:

Maureen Herndon, Shanthi Srinivasachar, Community Services

Tim “Smitty” Smith, Sydney Stasch, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Mike Sesma, Mayor & City Council

