



2016-7 Academy of Leaders: School Year
Grace Place for Children and Families

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Wednesday, January 4, 2017 5:00pm-6:00pm

Grace Place for Children and Families / 21st Century Community Learning Centers Advisory Board Meeting

Board Consists of:

Staff: Monica Chavez, Site Coordinator; Crystal Maldonado, College Access Coordinator; and Tom Powers, Director of School Age Programs

Schools/Teachers: Tobin Walcott, Principal; Scholastica Lee, Assistant Principal; Rebecca Harwood, Teacher; or designees.

Students: Abigail S.; Erna V.; Annette S.

Parents: Pedro Sanjuan; Paula Santiago

Community Partners: Corina Rionda and Jessica Cullen, David Lawrence Center; Janice Paine, United Arts Council.

Attending: MC, CM, TP, RH, AS, EV, AS, PS, PS, CR, JP

Minutes:

Site Coordinator reviewed 21st CCLC programming for spring semester. Director reviewed the purpose of the meeting and the proposed goals and objectives.

- How we are serving students:

Site Coordinator reported number of students in program and average attendance. Board members were very happy with extended time for homework. They also noted that staff know the students and their goals very well. Student behavior has been strengthened by character development programming including 7 Habits, Teen Outreach Program and Overcoming Obstacles. Staff is responsive and easy-going. There is great diversity of programming. Students appreciate extra help in math and support in managing time. Students are reporting improvement in their grades. The program creates an opportunity for adults and youth to work together and collaborate on projects—especially math for ACT, FSA preparation, art projects, and STEM. The leadership council supports and guides programming. Staff have adapted the activities to reflect student interest and needs.

- How can we improve the program at GGHS?

Students need more access to computers for homework and need the ability to print. Students would benefit from more subject-specific tutoring, especially science. It would be better if art could happen in a better space.

- How to improve Communication

There is a lot of information available on Grace Place's 21st CCLC website. We should use Twitter and social media more often. Social media excites the youth and eases communication. All appreciate texts and phone calls from program leadership. Staff have requested a bulletin board to showcase program success and efforts. Staff do a good job communicating with parents each day and at parent meetings. It would be good to have an open house where staff and youth could showcase projects.

- Who else should be involved in Advisory Board Meetings? How can we make these meetings more useful?

More student feedback would be appreciated. Perhaps the leadership council could provide feedback regularly to leadership on behalf of attending youth.