IDEA COALITION TASK FORCE

Minutes – April 16, 2018
7:00 p.m.; Islip High School Community Room

ATTENDEES: See sign-in sheet

7:08 p.m. Meeting opened by Mrs. Paehr and all welcomed.

Attendees asked to quickly review minutes from March meeting. Also asked if they wanted to continue receiving agenda and minutes in meeting reminder email. All agreed they appreciated this.

The minutes from March 19, 2018 were accepted as read unanimously.

REPORTS:

- **FINANCIAL REPORTS** – Mrs. Carr presented financial report, highlighting expenditures since last meeting:
  - $268.64 reimbursement of Mrs. Vouris for CADCA National Leadership Forum expenses (meals/travel)
  - $40.74 for office supplies

  Mrs. Carr also reviewed the Federal Financial Report for the first quarter 2018 that was recently filed, as well as the remaining anticipated expenses for this grant year. It was noted that there are funds remaining that will need to be encumbered by June 30th. Mrs. Paehr suggested we look into branding – pens, pencils, magnets, etc. with the IDEA logo and information (such as Cancel the Keg hotline number) that we can share as handouts at events.

  Financial reports were accepted; Mrs. Schnebel and Mrs. Carr to investigate branding opportunities.

- **PROJECT DIRECTOR** – Mrs. Vouris has been added to the Friends of Putnam email distribution list. This is another, larger coalition located in West Virginia who has shared some of their materials and ideas with her. She suggested we consider creating a similar list to keep apprised of IDEA events and also to encourage additional members.

  More information was also provided from the CADCA event Mrs.
Vouris attended from Youth Connections Coalition. They offer a magazine with informative articles that we could post on the district and IDEA website. We would be responsible for soliciting local business as advertisers. Cost and additional information may be found in Mrs. Vouris’ written report.

Youth Connections also offers “stall readers” that could be hung on the doors of the stalls in restrooms throughout the district, or on classrooms. The cost is $300 for a flash drive that contains files with customizable pieces, allowing us to add the IDEA logo before hanging.

Mrs. Vouris has also been doing a wide variety of webinars, both through SAMHSA (related to our DFC grant) and the National Heroin Coordination Group (NHCG). All PowerPoints for the SAMHSA webinars have been shared with Mrs. Schnebel and Mrs. Carr. The NHCG webinars focus on heroin and fentanyl by US region (Midwest, West, East, etc.). Presenters are from public health and law enforcement and describe efforts within the region.

Long Island Prevention Resource Center is offering a four day training series on substance abuse prevention skills in both May and June. All coalition members are eligible to receive this training.

Mrs. Vouris suggests that we consider joining the Islip Chamber of Commerce. She also noted that in light of this past weekend’s Health Fair at Trinity Lutheran Church, we need more volunteers (both adults and youth) to help with set up and manning the table and future events. We should also consider purchasing a tablecloth with our new logo to help brand our table at these kinds of events.

After Post Prom has concluded, Mrs. Vouris suggests that the Community Connectors review our membership lists and reach out to those who have not been attending meetings to see if they want to still be involved and how we can get them to join us again.

Mr. Clareen asked Mrs. Vouris about the Putnam coalition and how the issues they face compare to those IDEA handles. She noted that they are very similar, although they deal with more poverty and parental addiction issues, as well.

**YOUTH COORDINATOR** – Ms. Hall shared Mr. Modica’s report in his absence. Mrs. Carr pulled up the IDEA website and we reviewed changes Mr. Modica has made, adding more information on vape and wax pens and the Did You Know page. Mrs. Dengeles provided information on Game Night. We had 145 students (92 boys and 53 girls) attend. She noted that the middle school had the highest number of attendees (75), with 37 attending from CRES and 33 from SES. They will be sending out a survey to all attendees, but she did speak with some students from CRES who attended to get some anecdotal feedback. The consensus was that they loved the European handball tournament, but thought they there should be no
gaming station (or at least make it smaller), as video games do not encourage social interaction. Mrs. Solaski noted that more area should be provided for the students to put together their own pick-up basketball games, as she noticed that this seemed to be very popular on the night. Mrs. Dengeles pointed out the biggest issue they had was the mess in the gym, with garbage left all over the place. She and Ms. Hall had some success getting students to help clean up by offering them coupons for a free sundae at Applebees. Mrs. Brown noted that early in the evening there were no garbage cans in the gym, which could account for some of the mess. The Community Connectors were thanked for their efforts in getting prize donations from local businesses and also putting together the bags of information for parents. (Mr. Austin noted that Mrs. Brown was primarily responsible for the work on the bags.)

- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE SPECIALIST** – Ms. Hall reported that there are two final events on the calendar for this school year. VIBS will now have two presenters visit the 11th and 12th grade English classes in early June, as the one presenter who was scheduled to do them all has left. The presentations will focus on healthy relationships, date rape, and how to get out of dangerous situations.

  The second event is Save A Life tour that will be presented to seniors. This will include two driving simulators – one for distracted driving and one for drunk driving.

  Ms. Hall also noted that as part of our efforts to increase our social media presence on Instagram, student member Alexis Bates created some anti-drug memes for possible use. These were distributed for the grew to see. Mr. Clareen suggested that we may want to have students volunteer to have their photos included in the memes. It was also suggested that we could have MS participate in a meme creating contest through their Advisory period. Mrs. Schnebel nominated Alexis to chair a committee on meme creation. Ms. Hall mentioned that last year there was a PSA scholarship contest, so she will investigate to see if it is running again this year.

  Mr. Sparacio mentioned that the New York State Public High School Athletic Association has launched a No Empty Chair campaign aimed at preventing drinking and driving and other dangerous decisions. Islip coaches have been given the materials and will spend time reviewing it with their student-athletes.

- **POST PROM** – Mr. Austin reminded members of the coalition that the Post Prom Committee will be hosting a Paint Night fundraiser on Thursday, April 19th. They currently have about 30 people registered to participate.

  Building is going strong for the Post Prom, with one major component completed – the staircase – that will be shared with this weekend’s Junior Prom. Mr. Austin noted that this item was built, in its entirety by Mr. Phil Brown, a local contractor who has a daughter who is an Islip senior. Mr. Austin explained what he needed, and Mr. Brown worked with The Home Depot, explaining the project and who IDEA is and
why we run Post Prom. When all was said and done, The Home Depot provided $250 in gift certificates for the materials, and Mr. Brown did the rest. The entire piece is movable and can lay flat for storage purposes. Mr. Austin shared a photo on his phone. Mrs. Schnebel will send Mr. Brown a thank you letter, and he will also be invited to an upcoming Board of Education meeting so he can be presented with an Above and Beyond award from the district.

In other Post Prom news, the contract for the entertainment vendor is currently being reviewed by the vendor. Once both sides are okay with it, it will be put on an agenda for the Board of Education to approve.

The Post Prom Committee will be building every Thursday evening starting in May and right through June. This will take place in the Islip High School Cafeteria and basement. One new decoration piece are being crafted by Ms. Majestic and her students. They will create black and white op art on 2’ X 3’ pieces of oak tag that will be lit by black light on the night.

Superintendent Schnebel will send letters to District vendors requesting their support of Post Prom. She asked Mr. Austin to forward a list of businesses from whom the committee has already requested donations to avoid duplication.

Final notes: the Post Prom Committee will have representatives at both the Festival of the Arts and the Islip Street Fair. For the Street Fair, an Islip High School junior will be baking cupcakes to sell and promote his business. He will donate all of the proceeds to Post Prom.

OLD BUSINESS

- **HIGH-DING IN PLAIN SIGHT** – Mrs. Carr reviewed the results of the online (Survey Monkey) survey that was sent to attendees. For the most part, the feedback for the presenter/presentation was positive. Coalition members may see the results here: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-BF7CMWVLL/](https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-BF7CMWVLL/)

  Alexis noted that students she spoke with all felt Mr. Shoemaker’s student presentation was informative and enjoyable. She definitely feels that it should be done again at the MS to capture the grade (7th) that was unable to see the presentation this year. The consensus was that the night time presentation should also be done again, as word of mouth from this year should garner a bigger audience. Better/more promotion targeting high school parents is also recommended.

- **GAME NIGHT** – This topic was covered during reports.

- **CHRIS HERREN** – Mrs. Schnebel learned from his scheduler that he is no longer able to come this spring as anticipated. She has tentatively booked him for a school-day program in the fall (late September) instead. The funding from Islip
North Community Watch Group for this event will be transferred to pay for Save A Life Tour instead.

- **COMMUNITY MIXER** – Mrs. Dengeles is currently discussing dates with building principals for the spring of next year. They would like to have the event in the Islip community, possibly at Seatuck.

A brief recess to the meeting was called to wish Mrs. Schnebel a happy retirement.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **LETTER TO THE EDITOR** – Mrs. Schnebel shared a copy of a letter written by an Islip resident regarding the High-Ding in Plain Sight event.
- **CADCA MEMBERSHIP** – With our membership, we can add their logo to our printed materials going forward. It was suggested that we add a note about being a DFC grant recipient and member of CADCA to the IDEA website, as well.
- **SOCIAL MEDIA** - Those who receive information from Nixel (either directly or through IDEA) are discouraged from sharing it on their personal social media sites.
- **FAMILY & CHILDREN ASSOCIATION OPPORTUNITY** – Jeff Reynolds from Family & Children Association reached out to Mrs. Schnebel as the group recently received a $90,000 grant. They would like to work with us to offer Teen Intervene and Family Engagement workshops. Mrs. Schnebel will work with other districts in the Islip Cluster to have IDEA co-sponsor programs.
- **SHERIFF TOULON** – The new Suffolk County Sheriff recently held a meeting with all Suffolk County superintendents. He is coming to speak to a small group of Islip High School students on May 17th regarding their concerns. He would also like to do a free pre-prom event for parents. Mrs. Schnebel noted that Islip is willing to host, but would like to invite all of the Islip Cluster schools. If any of the other superintendents in the cluster are willing, she is okay with one of them hosting instead. Mrs. Solaski asked if there was any way to compel parents to attend this or any other pre-prom program. This raised the question regarding parents who may have to work at the time the event is held. Alexis Bates suggested offering a discount on Prom tickets to the children of attendees. It was suggested that we may not need to do this, since all Islip students are required to take buses provided by the District to/from Prom. It was also noted that with the Post Prom and graduation the next day, students know that if they are drinking that evening, they cannot walk at graduation the next day.
- **SUFFOLK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT** – Mrs. Schnebel received a letter from the Health Department today regarding workshops available for students and their parents/guardians who are caught with ENDS devices in school. They ask that districts provide the names/addresses of these students, who they will then invite with their families. Mrs. Schnebel has asked legal counsel to look into the legality of recommending students for these workshops. It was noted that those who are caught with THC in a vape or wax pen are committing a crime. Students can be arrested for this.
• **TURNAROUND TIME FOR IDEA PRINTING** – Mrs. Paehr asked that if anyone needs IDEA materials printed for an event or program that they please provide Mrs. Carr with plenty of advance notice so she can be sure she has the materials/time to do the job.

• **TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR 2018-2019:** After the April meeting, Dr. Semel, the incoming Superintendent of Schools, has asked that next year’s meetings be held on Tuesday evenings. Please mark your calendar with the following dates:
  - Tuesday, August 21, 2018
  - Tuesday, October 2, 2018
  - Tuesday, November 6, 2018
  - Tuesday, December 4, 2018
  - Tuesday, January 15, 2019
  - Tuesday, February 5, 2019
  - Tuesday, March 5, 2019
  - Tuesday, April 9, 2019
  - Tuesday, May 14, 2019

**QUESTIONS/CONCERNS**

• Prevention Action Alliance has window clings/signs available that we may want to consider placing in business around town prior to the Prom. Can we order these? Maybe also have some at the Middle School during parent drop-off the night of the Prom.

• Could HS students create video pieces/PSA-type work for IDEA? Mrs. Schnebel can speak with Mr. Riley and/or Mr. Sparacio to see if this might be possible.

• We need to re-group and organize for next year over the summer.

Mrs. Paehr thanked everyone for a great year.

8:45 p.m.  Meeting adjourned