MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
Continuing Education / Professional Development Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: Oct. 12, 2011                  Location: MHLS Auditorium

Committee members attending:
☑ Vicki Kurashige (Columbia)  ☑ Maria Steinberg (Putnam)
☑ Julie Spann (Dutchess)       ☑ Jim Cosgrove (Ulster)
☐ Nancy Rogers (Dutchess)      ☑ Tracy Priest (Ulster)
☑ Candace Begley (Greene)

Staff Attending: Merribeth Advocate, Mike Nyerges, Deb Weltsch

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Action Items:
1. Pilot Unconference CE in Feb/March
2. Pilot brown bag lunch topic /article discussion within the first 6 months of 2012.
3. Committee recommends the Building Your Base Online 2012 Self Directed Learning Series, and asks Directors to please encourage staff participation. It will raise the value of the service staff can provide, helping libraries stay relevant. The committee is looking for attendance of at least one person from each library.

Discussion Items:
1. Minutes approved with correction.
2. Reviewed survey results on training locations. 339 total respondents: 58 directors, 159 staff, 120 trustees. 76% had attended a MHLS CE program in 2010-11. Planners will pick popular locations for program scheduling.
3. Reviewed 2011 CE Program occurrences. 54 programs with 632 attendances so far. There are over 70 programs total scheduled in 2011, with 19 being hands-on made available by the grant funded laptop lab.
4. Alternative Trainings were discussed:
   a. Participants in 30-Second-Training by topic: 177 Practice Tests; 175 Hudson Valley Reads. Participants in 5-Question-Training by topic: 243 OverDrive Audiobooks; 101 OverDrive eBooks; 70 HeritageQuest; 159 Mango Languages; 105 Practice Tests; 69 Chiltons.
   b. 2012 Self Directed Learning Series: Committee agreed that this training gets the new ‘High Priority’ stamp on the Workshop Notice.
   c. Unschooling and unconferencing was discussed for their authentic elements of learning through natural life experiences and social interaction. Committee asked staff to pilot hosting an Unconference in Feb/March 2012. Also to pilot as a CE brown bag lunch topic after a DA meeting, or CE as a discussion of a relevant article by June 2012.
5. Deb Weltsch gave an overview of the upcoming medical training from the Central Library Program, including the lists being distributed at the County DA meetings. The committee felt this was facilitating something important and making it easier to get the job done in this important area. Tuesdays Tips of weekly reference tips targeted at front line staff were also discussed. Committee recognized these bits of learning with broad appeal will help to build core competencies.
6. Committee reviewed the 2011 participant evaluation summaries of every MHLS workshop held since the last committee meeting. Outcome based post-evaluations were reviewed on select workshops.
7. Committee reviewed the pilot of outcome based consultation feedback forms. Asked that a box be added to indicate if the person filling it out was director, staff or trustee.
8. Committee agreed that a minimum of $25 should be charged for out-of-system attendees to MHLS workshops, and that if there was a charge to MHLS attendees that the $25 be added on top of that.
9. Committee brainstormed on how to encourage sharing of successes and related experiences.