

Sierra County Office of Education
Foster Youth Services Executive Advisory Council
109 Beckwith Road, Bldg. 4, Loyalton, California
530 993-1660 Ext. *840

MINUTES

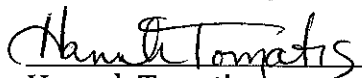
April 21, 2016
10:30 a.m.


COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Superintendent Merrill M. Grant, Ed. D., Coordinator, Foster Youth Services
Coordinating Advisory Council
Hannah Tomatis, Foster Youth Educational Liaison
Michael Moore, Sierra County Board of Education
Thomas Jones, Loyalton High School Administrator
Andrea White, Loyalton Elementary School Administrator
Lisa Botzler, Sierra County Child Protective Services

Absent: Marlene Mongolo, Sierra County SELPA Director

1. Approval of February 8, 2016, Minutes
MOORE/JONES
6/0
2. Foster Youth Summit Report – *See attached*
3. Foster Youth Educational Services Report –
 - Counseling and Tutoring provided at all school sites.
 - After School Bus provided on Mondays and Wednesdays after tutoring.
4. Collaboration between Sierra County and Sierra County Office of Education regarding Foster Youth support
 - Social worker shall be involved in enrollment and updated on school discipline issues
 - Foster Relatives (Placement) will be certified starting 1/2017
 - Adoption Safe Family Act
 - Safety Faire project to increase understanding about Foster Parenting
 - Courtesy Supervision – Social Worker overseeing child from another county
5. Next Meeting Date: September 15, 2016.


Hannah Tomatis,
Foster Youth Coordinator/Liaison


Merrill M. Grant, Ed. D., Superintendent
Foster Youth Services Coordinating Advisory
Council

The summit was held in Sacramento on April 11-13. Over 800 people attended with probation, CPS, school psychologists and student services personnel represented.

LAUSD was the largest representation: They have 9000 Foster Youth.

Workshops: Most I attended related to working with local agencies and also advice on completing the LCAP. The most beneficial workshop involved only District Liaisons, where I met my local counterparts. There, I discovered we do *not* know the funding allocation for 2016-17.

There were some things I think we should implement at the site levels.

1. District Liaison meet with foster parents upon enrollment.
2. 30 day follow up with the student, principal, district liaison, foster parents and student.
3. Social worker should be on emergency contact list.
4. Are measurable objectives, specifically for foster youth, in place? (Esp crucial at high school level.)

Challenges districts face include:

1. keeping track of the foster youth population
2. truancy of foster youth
3. preparation for college entrance
4. transportation
5. lack of engagement (parents/guardians, students)
6. meeting their "soft" needs. One current foster youth spoke up and stated that, "Everyone wants to help, but no one wants to listen."