



Allamakee County Team March 11, 2010

The Allamakee County Team met on March 11, 2010 at 5:30 pm at the Waukon Wellness Center. There were 13 people present: Janel Clark, Teresa Wiemerslage, Tiffany Murphy, Angela Gibbs, Dani Bucknell, Jane Rausch, Stef Perkins, Cloy Kuhse, Mary Jo Goodman, Mary Koopman, Jan Kemp, Connie Benedict, Lana Snitker.

Introduction Activity Responses: When is the last time you ate school lunch?

- *Last week at St. Pats for Catholic Schools week - instant potatoes, hamburger gravy, bread, milk, canned pears
- *Waverly Head Start - Breakfast: Blueberry bagel, plain cream cheese, prunes, orange slices, milk
- *Years ago - Can't even remember, but remember it didn't always taste good and what you were served was what you got
- *Last month with son for Birthday - Hot dog, milk, cookie, fruit cocktail

Old Business & Reports:

None

Summary of program and discussion:

- 1) An overview of the NE Iowa Farm to School Project was presented on and discussed by Teresa Wiemerslage. Handouts were given explaining the Farm to School vision and what has been happening locally and with the six pilot schools in these areas of Education (Cross Age Teaching and Teacher Training), Food Service, and School Gardens.
- 2) Discussion followed and included the following responses from those in attendance:

Initial thoughts of the Farm to School program and its goals:

- *Exciting to hear about
- *I think it's great to hear about what the children will be experiencing
- *Waukon seems to have growing school support from administration

How do we get from where we are to where we want to be in regards to school lunches? Barriers?

- *Are there school regulations related to how/what food can be brought in to the schools?
- *Commodities
- *Convenience (Time, work involved)
- *Scale (large amount of food needed to feed a school district)
- *Weather (How can high tunnels be used?)

What education currently exists in schools to teach students where their food comes from?

- *BASICS nutrition program
- *Froelich Foundation
- *Dairy Foundation Center

How would farm to school involve the whole community?

- *Master Gardeners volunteer
- *Increase interaction/discussion in the community overall
- *Cost-savings (seeds donated)
- *Extra additional income

3) Those in attendance were then encouraged to commit to how they can become involved by listing what they can do for Farm to School when they leave the meeting. Postcards to document success stories/inspiration were given out to be returned to Rachael and Flannery.

4) There was additional discussion on Next Steps for Farm to School, including:

How the Allamakee County Team can facilitate discussions on Farm to School to happen in our community?

Ideas: *Utilize the Listserv

*Utilize the Facebook page to post items and discussion

*Add more local items to the agenda for County Team Meetings

How can we get the product to the school?

*Processing days

*Can donations of extra produce for local producers and gardeners be made to the school

5) An update on what is currently happening with Safe Routes to School in Allamakee County as a pilot program was given. The summer VERB program ideas were explained. Program will be conducted through the Waukon Wellness Center. Team beginning to gather dates and locations of Fun events. More details to follow next month. A survey gathering data on the number of students walking/biking to school will be gathered again this Spring of 2010.

6) An update on the Waukon School Wellness group of students was discussed. Steph Perkins to be meeting with Waukon High School students to increase youth involvement. Previous meeting was canceled due to State basketball games.

Action items for next meeting:

None

Items for the next meeting's agenda: April 15, 5:30 pm WWC.

Submitted by: Angela Gibbs