

SSPRPA CAMP/TEEN MEETING

Date: Sept. 19 **Time:** 1:30pm

Attendees: Meghan Fenlon, TPPD, Bailey O’Connell, TPPD, Kristen Morrison, Frankfort Park District, Sarah Carr, Pleasant Dale Park District, Jennah Carlson, H-F Park District, Casey O’Connell, Joliet Park District, Bethany Lerch, New Lenox Park District

Item
• Teen Programming Updates
• Greatest Success-Staff
• Greatest Success-Campers
• Challenges
-to be addressed throughout year
• Biggest Surprises!
• Exciting plans for 2024
• Open Roundtable Discussion
IPRA Update-none at this time
Announcements
Adjournment

Minutes:

Teen Updates-

Here is the information for a co-op Teen Ski Trip, if interested reach out to Jennah at H-F jcarlson@hfparks.com

Who: Grades 6-8

When: Monday, January 15th 9am-7pm

Where: Wilmot Mountain Ski Resort, 11931 River Road, Wilmot, WI

Fee: \$125 R / \$150 NR

Rentals: \$48 for skis, poles, boots, and helmet

Additional Information:

Fee includes transportation and lift ticket

Bus will depart from the Irwin Community Center at 9:00am

Approximate arrival at the resort will be 10:30am. Departure will be around 5:30pm

Approximate arrival back to the Irwin Community Center will be 7:00pm
Participants can bring their own equipment if they have it. We'll have room in the back of our bus.
Participants are encouraged to bring their own lunch or cash to buy food there
Participants will be required to check in with staff at least twice while there (most likely 2pm and 5pm)

If anyone plans a teen trip and you would like to offer it to the group as a co-op please out details as soon as you have them. Several agencies are working on bringing back their teen programs and looking for opportunities!

Greatest Staff Success:

- SSPRPA Day Camp training was great and staff really learned a lot from it
- Little time between camp and before/After school ended and staff rose to challenge and knocked it out of the park
- Hired more staff then needed to compensate for loss of staff
- So proud of staff-a lot of returners vs. last year, they brought their own ideas and taught the group
- Staff even came in on their vacation to help in-they really gave it their all this year
- Were able to hire a lot more male staff
- Were able to hire a camp director again so relieved rec supervisor of duties-helped help run smoother and allow for more time to dedicate to tasks
- Checked in with staff half way and again at end, helped greatly
- Overall staff communication with parents was really improved
- Noi staff left throughout summer!

Greatest Camper Successes:

- Overall behaviors were better than previous summers
- Supervisor provided extra words of encouragement to staff which in turn trickled down to campers
- Fewer parent calls!
- Camper feedback was great especially with field trips
- Preschool enrollment was high, able to offer another session
- Camper interactions were amazing to see with their inclusion aides and all campers.
- A lot of new campers and were able to see friendships really grow!

Challenges:

- Parents NOT reading emails/newsletter!!!
- Tot camp-sharing issues and many not toileting independently
- Zoom hacker in parent meeting
- Tot playground under construction so had to be creative
- Building construction-limited indoor space!
- Had to let several staff go and already dealing with 75% new staff-very challenging!

- Added 2 weeks on to camp with school opening delays
- Campers with challenges that could have benefited from extra supports but parents were reluctant or did not provide details in a timely manner
- Parents of some campers who received extra supports thought rules should be altered to accommodate their camper

Misc. Items:

- Parent video (instead of meeting) went great, and saved a lot of questions before camp began (Joliet Park District)
- Some of the CIT's were better than staff-if you are hesitant to bring these on, don't be!

Southside Camp Challenge

- *Tabled until the next meeting*-do we want to offer a south side camp challenge where participating agencies plan a field day and camps (older /middle grades) some together for a competition day? Similar to IPRA Teen Camp challenge.

Upcoming Meeting Information:

October 17 Homewood Flossmoor Park District, Irwin Center, 18120 Highland Ave, Homewood 1:30pm

Topic: Camp 2024 Camp Fees, Payment Plans, Staff salaries, Budget & Staff Recruitment

***bring your favorite camp art project (we can all create together, or bring an example with ideas on how to do it**

November 14: Frankfort Park District, Founders Center, 140 Oak St, Frankfort, 1:30pm

Topic: 2024 Field Trip/Visitor Ideas, Calendar Planning

***bring a one day field day you have run successfully to share with group!**

February 20 ZOOM 1:30pm

Topic: Conference Re-cap-bring your top 3 take-aways from conference sessions!

***bring your favorite rainy day activity (not put on a movie!) to share with group!**