

DREAM Board Meeting Agenda

January 17, 2007

DREAM Office

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Chair Report

(old business and new business)

Chair, Jon Harris

(5:30pm)

Q & A*

(answers to questions brought up through homework)

Executive Director, Mike Loner

(5:40 pm)

Discussion #1: Feasibility Study

Mike Loner

(6:00)

The board will discuss the feasibility study with the goal of finalizing the study's purpose. Staff is invited share perspective in this discussion.

Things to consider:

- Are the board priorities represented within the feasibility study
- Does the feasibility study assess DREAM's current and future state?
- What are the next steps of the study (what happens after this meeting?)

Comments from the January HW

1) Last Meeting Minutes – Accept

2) State of DREAM Report – Mike Loner

- Sounds great! I support changing the fiscal year.
- Amazing news! Congratulations to everyone.
- WOW this is all so amazing!
- Nice work Mike - I'd love to hear a bit more on the health of the local programs...
- Even more good news than usual! Wow.
I agree with the idea of shifting the fiscal calendar.
Would the Leadership Champlain project serve as the de facto feasibility study?
Do we have any control over which business professionals make up the team?
- Relative to the Appeal:
 - 1) How does DREAM prioritize the appeal money (do you before or after the appeal?)
 - 2) Since DREAM will most likely change a lot over the next year (with AmeriCorps staffing/space/etc), do you have any expected financial needs? Travel? Supplies for increased services? If you do, should part of this money be for those needs?

3) Board Proposals

A) Karen Hendy – Staff Ends – Rejected

- Should there be something about how Staff are impacted *during* their employment with DREAM? All of these ends seem oriented toward how staff are impacted as an end result of their tenure, i.e. skills that they take with them to future jobs.
- I really like this and would only make a slight change in 6.3 – I see the motivation and catalyst role as being less about skills and more about empowerment and inspiration. I would suggest changing it to something like: Staff are inspired and empowered to be lifelong catalysts of change.
- Looks great Karen... how about changing the last "will motivate" to "will assist"?

B) Jon Harris – Community Ends – Accepted

- Thanks for being so persistent on the evolution of this policy...it's looking great.

C) Mike Foote – Feasibility Studies

- This is thorough and thought provoking. Looking forward to discussing it at the meeting.
- Hey Jonny, can we get a staff member (or Mike) to tell us a bit more about how they are thinking about using the new staff? i think that will give us some good context to see if stage one is heading in the right direction with respect to the board priorities.
See you wed.
- Looks good – these are great questions.

- I think this all sounds great – these are the right guiding questions in my mind. I do think a big part of figuring out what “national” means for stage two should be coming up with different growth scenarios (central office in VT that oversees programs throughout New England, state offices around the country with mostly independent programs and camps, regional DREAM/Big Brother Big Sister joint programs, etc.) and comparing their advantages and disadvantages. So I would add to Phase 5 of Stage 2, “What is the best strategy for expansion beyond VT?”
- A few thoughts on the feasibility study (all of these relate to Stage 1 (Growth plan for DREAM in VT)
 - 1) Mentors were not mentioned in stage 1, but the board has set applying the TOC as a priority. We should include this in the feasibility study
 - 2) Staffing - we should ask the question. Is relying on AmeriCorps sustainable? On a 5 year time frame? On a 20 year timeframe?