

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION WORKSHEET

### I. List the Learning(s) that this recommendation is addressing:

1. A good education is one of the major factors in helping to overcome poverty.
2. Students who are reading below grade level in 3rd and 4th grades are more likely to drop out of school.

- **WRITE THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION\*\* (limit focus to one subject or action item, more than one recommendation may be needed to address a particular learning ):**

Secure permanent funding to support after-school and summer programs so parents don't have to pay the \$6/per day/per child fee, which prohibits many struggling students from getting the extra instructional time they need.

- **Identify any research, or other kinds of information that was used to craft this recommendation.** (add additional sheets as necessary)

There is growing evidence that good afterschool programming makes a difference in kids' lives, according to Harvard's Program in Afterschool Education and Research. Studies suggest that attendance at afterschool is associated with better grades, peer relations, emotional adjustment, and conflict resolution skills. Children who attend programs also spend more time on learning opportunities and academic and enrichment activities than their peers. Whether programs are school-based or independent of schools, they should aim to create continuity across learning opportunities, achieve integration of different learning goals, and deepen children's exploration and skill acquisition. (Harvard Education Letter)

(I think we can find extensive research on the benefits of high quality after school programs.) **Yes, although the *Harvard Ed. Letter* is among the better resources.**

- **Identify additional research or information that could help clarify this committee recommendation. List potential sources if possible.**

**1. Research possible grants for after school programs. (21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers) This is the best grant program available for after-school programs. I'm hoping there will be another grant cycle this school year.**

- **Indicate people or groups that we need to talk to help clarify this committee recommendation. List any recommended locations.**

Linda Dunn with **the Clarke County School District.**

School system administrators, Service providers who may be willing to bring services to after school programs rather than their traditional service locations, etc.

I think we may also want to talk with people in the family engagement PPA committee as they are discussing similar ideas.

- **What kind of action/strategies would be necessary to implement the recommendation?**
  1. The Board of Education should pay the total cost of after-school programs for all students who need homework help and extended learning opportunities, including enrichment activities. If the after-school programs can't be totally free, the school district should develop/expand scholarship programs for students whose families cannot afford \$6 per day for after-school instruction.  
(Funding strategies for this would need to be developed.)  
Yes, but first we must demonstrate the effectiveness of our current after-school programs.
  2. Programs should focus primarily on homework help, academics, and enrichment during after-school and summer school hours. Enrichment opportunities, such as music, art, media, nature study, and sports education, may fire interests in students that would take them all the way through graduation and beyond.
  3. Make tutoring services available to every child who needs additional help at school and in community and neighborhood centers where children live.
  4. Provide transportation home (currently, parents must pick their children up every day following after-school, which is often not convenient or possible because many parents work during those hours or do not own a car) so more children can participate in after-school programs.
  
- **Indicate what forces and influences are likely to occur that will support or oppose implementation.**

**Forces that support (please list):**  
**Parents, teachers, service providers, etc.**

**Forces that oppose (please list):**  
**Funding and providing high quality services may create some opposition—turf issues among service providers may also be a challenge. The opposite could actually be true; over the years, we have worked very well with a number of service providers, e.g., Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, and ACC Parks and Recreation Services.**

**\*\*As information is received and/or clarified, these potential recommendations may change or be discarded.**