



2010/2011 Annual Report

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Mission and Vision

Our vision is to give teens a voice in our community.

Our mission is to demonstrate to the community that teens are valuable assets and care about issues that affect teens and all citizens. We seek to raise awareness of issues important to teens and enable their voices to be heard. We hope to accomplish this by educating the community about who we are through events, community service, surveys, forums, and serving as a channel and resource for the benefit of all teens, thus creating a win-win situation that provides common ground for teens and adults.

2010/2011 Council Officers



Maria Hillenbrand, Co-President

Senior, Lowell Whiteman School
4th Year on Teen Council
Interests: Skiing, Soccer, Tennis
Issues: City Growth and Development



Shelby Dyer, Co-President

Senior, Lowell Whiteman School
2nd Year on Teen Council
Interests: Skiing, Dancing, Kayaking, Traveling
Issues: The environment and keeping Steamboat Springs a safe and friendly city



Codi Coghlan, Secretary

Sophomore, Steamboat Springs High School
2nd Year on Teen Council
Interests: Writing, Art, Skiing, Tennis
Issues: The Environment, Activities for Teens, Teen Involvement in the Community and Teen Tobacco Use

2010/2011 Council Members



Austin Ritzel

Senior, Steamboat Springs High School
3rd Year on Teen Council
Interests: Government, Economics, Basketball
Issues: Teen Drug Use, Education



Erik Petersen

Senior, Lowell Whiteman School
1st Year on Teen Council
Interests: Alpine Skiing, Rock-climbing, Mountain Biking, Languages
Issues: Activities for Teens, Public Speaking



Ross Petersen

Senior, Lowell Whiteman School
1st Year on Teen Council
Interests: Skiing, Music
Issues: Hunger, Activities for Teens



Owen McIntosh

Junior, Steamboat Springs High School
2nd Year on Teen Council
Interests: Traveling, Learning Languages (Chinese)
Issues: Drug Use, Hunger, Water Distribution



Morgan Mertz

Junior, Home School
1st Year on Teen Council
Interests: Skiing, Reading, Biking, Hanging Out with Friends, Travel
Issues: Teen Tobacco/Alcohol/Drug Use, Activities for Teens



Connor Bernard

Junior, Steamboat Springs High School
1st Year on Teen Council
Interests: Skiing, Mountaineering, Backpacking, Trail Running
Issues: Environment, City Development and Growth, Teen Alcohol/Drug Use



Penn Lukens

Sophomore, Steamboat Springs High School
2nd Year on Teen Council
Interests: Skiing, Lacrosse
Issues: Activities for Teens

2010 / 2011 Teen Council Members Continued...



Allison Williams

Sophomore, Steamboat Springs High School

Interests: Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis, Dance, Snowboarding,

Issues: Teen Tobacco Use, Public Awareness and Respect for Teen Council



Annie Ochs

Sophomore, Lowell Whiteman School

1st Year on Teen Council

Interests: Skiing, Travelling, School

Issues: Activities for Teens



Sam Samlowski

Sophomore, Steamboat Springs High School

2nd Year on Teen Council

Interests: Lacrosse, Archery, Baking, Friends, Long Walks on the Beach

Issues: Drug Use, Participation in School Activities, a "Cleaner" Steamboat



Kent Barron

Sophomore, Steamboat Springs High School

2nd Year on Teen Council

Interests: Skiing, Drumming, Listening to Smooth Jazz

Issues: Teen Alcohol/Drug Use/Abuse



Olivia Rudolph

Freshman, Lowell Whiteman School

1st Year on Teen Council

Interests: Skiing, Baking, Mountain Biking, Reading, Backpacking

Issues: Teen Alcohol/Drug Use, Being Green



Malia Fraioli

Freshman, Steamboat Springs High School

1st Year on Teen Council

Interests: Dance, Volleyball, Tennis, Performing Arts

Issues: Teen Entertainment and Resources, and Teen Drug Abuse

Teen Council Coordinators



Brooke Lightner, City of Steamboat Springs, Teen Programs Coordinator
Interests: Soccer, Snowboarding, Reading, Knitting and Spreadsheets
Issues: Teens as assets to the community



Dervla Lacy, Grand Futures Prevention Coalition, Managing Director
Interests: Skiing, Hiking, Traveling, Reading and Ice Cream
Issues: Providing positive adult role models and keeping youth ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs) free



Kate Marshall, Grand Futures Prevention Coalition, Routt County Coordinator
Interests: Hiking, Traveling, Cooking & Baking, Crafting
Issues: Empowering youth to make healthy, positive lifestyle choices

History

Spring of 2007—Grand Futures Prevention Coalition(GFPC) and the City of Steamboat Springs Teen Programs(TP) initiated development of SSTC.

Fall of 2007—Regular meetings began during the Steamboat Springs High School’s lunch hour.

March 2008—Official Steamboat Springs Teen Council (SSTC) meetings moved outside of SSHS, to include students from Lowell Whiteman School, Christian Heritage and the Steamboat Springs Middle School in an effort to create a council reflective of the larger teen community. SSTC designed a logo, developed a mission and vision statement, established goals and prepared for presentations to the community.

September 2009—Teen Council 2009 - 2010 term began its third full year.

Fall 2009—Teen Council toured facilities and met with leaders of the Boys and Girls Club of Steamboat Springs and City Council Member Walter Magill to discuss ideas for a teen space.

Winter 2010—Teen Council members met and reviewed plans for designated teen spaces through Sk8 Church and the City of Steamboat Springs Ice Arena Bump Out Project. Teen Council members were interviewed and quoted in the Steamboat Pilot and Today for their work related to developing a designated teen space. Council members also marched in the Winter Carnival Parade to raise awareness about Teen Council.

Spring 2010—Teen Council members presented the Teen Survey results to various stakeholders in our community, including City Council, Routt County Commissioners, Steamboat Springs School District Board, Lowell Whiteman School Faculty and Staff, Routt County Human Resource Coalition, and the Parks and Recreation Commission. Council members recruited new members for 2010-2011 from Christian Heritage School, Steamboat Springs Middle and High Schools, Lowell Whiteman School, Lowell Whiteman Primary School, and the Yampa Valley School.

May 2010—Teen Council members helped to facilitate the first juvenile justice symposium in Routt County which aimed to provide information on the connection between youth substance use and involvement with the juvenile justice system, as well as the short and long-term consequences of association in the system. Council members also developed a “Teen Laws and Rights” resource for teens detailing important information on teens’ rights related to commonly enforced laws. Officers were elected for the 2010-2011 Teen Council term.

June 2010—Teen Council members celebrated the end of the year with a barbeque to wish our graduating seniors well and welcome our new recruits for 2010-2011 Council.

Goals & Accomplishments

Conducted an anonymous pre-survey for all members for reporting and outcomes purposes. Issues that were identified in the pre-survey as concerns of members:

- Educating teens on legal consequences of actions
- Expansion of Steamboat Springs (Steamboat 700)
- Increase “Teen Voice” and respect for teens
- Teen Activities outside of school
- Jobs for teens and summer employment
- Steamboat wanting to become a bike town
- Teens have a lack of respect towards elders = source of conflict

Assigned members to our three committees: Public Relations, Education/Events and Service and elected Chairs for each committee and drafted goals.

Attended Rachel’s Challenge presentation, an anti-bullying initiative as a group.

Hosted a second Juvenile Justice Symposium in November.

Representatives from the School Board interviewed Teen Council as part of their community engagement process and our feedback was incorporated into the revised graduation requirements.

For the holidays we focused on the service component of our mission and increasing awareness of Teen Council by wearing our TEEN GREEN and contributing to the Community Thanksgiving dinner, adopting a family through the United Way’s Christmas Wishes program and volunteering at the 33rd Annual Community Holiday party.

Increased awareness of Teen Council by competing in the Community Spelling Bee in January.

Adopted a Code of Conduct for council members.

Launched a Steamboat Springs Teen Council FACEBOOK page.

Acted as a resource for the County Director of Grand Futures in Grand County and a representative from the Fraser Valley Recreation district - they are trying to start a Teen Council in Grand County and observed our meeting and gathered our feedback.

Annual presentations to stakeholders including the School Board, City Council, the Human Resources Coalition and the Parks and Recreation commission.

Supported the Tobacco Initiative project through VNA, N-CTRL, which sought to license non-cigarette tobacco retailers in the city of the Steamboat Springs to reduce youth access to these products. Ordinance was successfully passed in August 2011.

Goals & Accomplishments Continued

Were featured in the N-CTRL Campaign Successes brochure produced by Grand Futures Prevention Coalition.

Partnered with Yampa Valley Sustainability Council on Earth Hour projects for March 26th.

www.steamboatspringsteencouncil.org went LIVE!

Hosted the 1st Teen Council Forum on April 13th which provided teens an opportunity to share any issues of concern to them with council members, educated the community about the existence of teen council and its goals and recruited new members for the 2011/2012 school year. We had free pizza and gelato from Ciao Gelato.

Recruited new council members to replace graduating seniors.

Participated in training with Todd Musselman of Timberline Leadership Management in May, to develop our leadership skills.

Recorded a radio public service announcement for underage drinking prevention during Prom Season.

Teen Council Reflections

What did you gain from your experience on Teen Council last year?

“I learned that teens do have an impact in the community and we have very valued opinions.”

“It was my first experience working on a council, so I learned a lot about how to operate in the council environment. Furthermore, I learned that it is a process to get things accomplished and how we carry through from the initial vision, to plan, to execution. I realize that we must utilize the individual skills of each member to accomplish the goals of our entire group.”

“I see a lot of things in the community that I was unaware of, prior to being a part of the council.”

“I gained an even greater feeling of responsibility to give teens a voice in the community.”

“A good knowledge of tobacco awareness.”

“My first year on Teen Council was a great learning experience about the program, committees and how everything works. I feel much more involved in the community than I was when I only lived at Whiteman without town participation.”

“Last year on Teen Council, I gained a lot of knowledge about the growing tobacco problem among teens in Steamboat.”

“I gained new friends and leadership skills.”

“I learned how to participate in a meeting setting with guest speakers present.”

“It gave me a place to talk about things in the community that I am concerned about and helped me start finding ways to fix them.”

“I gained a great deal of information from the Juvenile Justice Symposium. I learned a lot about current issues about Steamboat.”

“I gained public speaking experience.”

“I gained knowledge about what is going on in the community, and how being in charge of things is harder than it appears.”

Teen Council Reflections Continued

What was your favorite memory from Teen Council?

“Working at the Holiday party!”

“My favorite memory from Teen Council was going to the City Council meeting and being in that professional environment and promoting also when the school board came to one of our early-in-the-year meetings, I enjoyed that discussion.”

“My favorite memory from Teen Council was laughing so hard at Kent and Sam’s jokes as we all opened our Secret Santa presents.”

“The bowling party was a great memory!”

“Presenting to the School Board and being able to see their responses to our accomplishments.”

“Bowling at the Snow Bowl.”

“My favorite memories from Teen Council have been from the Holiday Parties and Winter Carnival.”

“Milkshakes and Fries at Johnny B. Goods for Executive Committee Meetings!”

“My favorite memory from Teen Council has been working with N-CTRL and presenting the concept to the community through petition signing and City Council meetings.”

“The meeting are always fun!”

“One day before a meeting at dinner time, we all sat and talked. It was so much fun... unforgettable.”

“I liked the Bowling Party.”

“Definitely the Bowling Party... GREAT FUN!”

Teen Council Reflections Continued

What do you think was your greatest contribution to Teen Council?

“I think my greatest contribution to Teen Council has been my voice and my dedication to helping with underage drinking and the Teen’s Laws and Rights.”

“I think my participation in N-CTRL has been my biggest contribution and I am really excited to continue presenting it until it passes.”

“Presentation to the School Board and my work with N-CTRL.”

“I believe that I was simply able to contribute during discussions and was available to work on projects when need be. I also showed up to help present to the school board. Working on the education committee, I plan to present to the middle school and have been wanting to help on our website.”

“I feel that just having contributed in conversation has helped to benefit the community. In particular, the foreign language requirement at Steamboat Springs High School.”

“I think my greatest contribution to Teen Council was taking notes at meetings and creating the Meeting Minutes.”

“My greatest contribution in Teen Council was being an active member of the Public Relations crew and giving strong thoughts towards making Teen Council more relevant in the community.”

“Giving my input into conversations.”

“I think my humor and good attitude is much appreciated by the other members.”

“Giving the presentation to the Human Resource Coalition.”

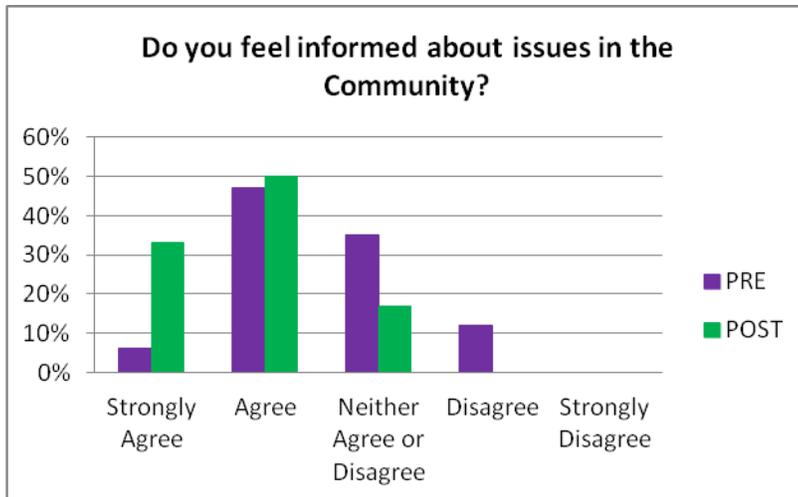
“I always tried to be a positive figure.”

“The Website!”

“My participation and help trying to motivate people, especially in my committee.”

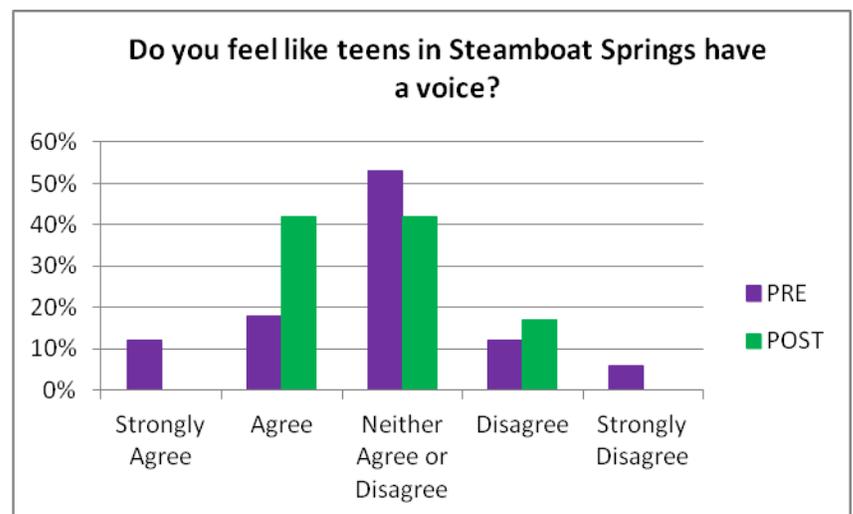
Teen Council Survey Findings

Teen Council members were asked to complete an identical survey at the start and at the end of the program. The pre and post surveys allow coordinators to assess youth attitudes and behaviors related to alcohol and drug-use in the community, as well as view effectiveness of the Teen Council program.



In the 2010-2011 School Year, we can see that members who completed the Teen Council program felt more informed about issues in the community at the end of the program as compared to the start. Members who strongly agree increased by 27% points; agreed increased by 3% points; neither agree or disagree decreased by 18% points; and disagree decreased by 12% points (no members answered disagree at the end of the program).

However, we also found that members were divided in their responses to the question, “Do you feel like teens in Steamboat Springs have a voice?” Members who strongly agree decreased by 12% points; agreed increased by 24% points; neither agree or disagree decreased by 11% points; disagree increased by 5% points; strongly disagree decreased by 6% points (no members answered strongly disagree at the end of the program).



We find from these results and others that while the Steamboat Springs Teen Council is effective in involving students in the community, there is still the need to give teens a voice and empower youth to feel like valued members of the community.

Steamboat Springs Teen Council will continue to provide teen members and their peers with pro-social opportunities. Research has shown that the more assets and protective factors a young person possesses, the less likely they are to engage in risky behaviors.

By cultivating these protective factors/assets in participating youth we can directly and positively impact youth substance use and delinquency figures in our community.

Teen Council Funders

City of Steamboat Springs



Grand Futures Prevention Coalition



Colorado Division of Behavioral Health (DBH), Persistent Drunk Driving Fund



**This project was supported by federal grant #29-DJ-03-17-1,
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Thank You to Ciao Gelato for your generous donations!



Grand Futures Prevention Coalition, Routt County Funders

*As a program of GFPC, Teen Council may have received supplemental funding from various local and state general operating sources received by Grand Futures, including:

- Anschutz Family Foundation;
- Community Engagement for Tobacco-Free Communities Mini-Grant;
- Craig-Scheckman Family Foundation, Youth Advocacy Project;
- Daniels Fund;
- Routt County Human Resource Coalition;
- Routt County United Way;
- United Methodist Church Foundation, Steamboat Springs;
- Yampa Valley Community Foundation;
- 14th Judicial District fines and costs; and
- Generous donations from local residents and businesses.



Teen Council Meeting Time



Bowling at Snow Bowl, November 2010



Community Spelling Bee, January 2011



N-CTRL Initiative, January – June 2011



Presenting to Human Resource Coalition, March 2011



Earth Hour Celebration, March 2011



Teen Open Forum, April 2011



City Council supports the SSTC at the Teen Open Forum, April 2011



End of the Year BBQ, June 2011

Contact Us:

Teen Council meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month (September-May) at the Steamboat Springs Community Center at 6:15 p.m.

Meetings are open to the public.

Visit us online at www.steamboatspringsteencouncil.org

“Like us” on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ssteencouncil

For more information or to reach us:

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