



**Visioneering  
Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony Alliance  
Meeting Notes  
November 13, 2008**

**Mission of RDOH Alliance:**

***“To create a culture that promotes and celebrates racial, diversity, opportunities & harmony within the Wichita MSA.”***

**Attendees:** Geri Watts, Roderick Harris, Irene Hart, Maria Bias, Kendall Heier, Gail Finney, David Osio, Ed Bricknell, Margarita Hunt, Susan Leiker

**Guests:** Kim Burkhalter, USD 259 Cultural Competency

**Meeting Notes** from the October 22, 2008 RDOH Alliance meeting were approved as submitted.

**The Purpose of the RDOH Alliance meeting:**

- *Visioneering Updates*
- *‘Kansas Career Pipeline’ Presentation*
- *Discussion of Proposed RDOH/Visioneering E-Newsletter*
- *Discuss next steps*

**Cultural Competency:** Kim Burkhalter provided information on USD 259 Cultural Competency. They work with diversity in many different forms. NAACP challenged USD 259 to look at diversity and how it could implement best practices. The district developed a 5 year plan. A district-wide book study was conducted on Cultural Proficiency, a manual for school leaders. It is not a program but a tool used for learning and awareness, a process, a foundation.

- **Year 1** – a session cultural knowledge – study session on the book – adults learning
- **Year 2** – value diversity – taking diversity into the classroom, what does that mean, learning culturally relevant
- **Year 3** – as be come more aware – how to manage
- **Year 4** – adapting in the classroom
- **Year 5** – institutionalize – how do we get to this point?

There is a video on the website that tells stories of the 1<sup>st</sup> year.

*How can the alliance help?*

- Ideas on how to better inform the community
- Provide other opportunities to get the information out – contact Kim at 973-5183 or [kburkhalter@usd259.net](mailto:kburkhalter@usd259.net)

**E-Newsletter**

Brenda volunteered to coordinate a newsletter that would be forwarded to the Visioneering database. Member from each alliance would provide their updates.

Next alliance meeting bring examples of electronic newsletters format – printed or description

**Review, Revise, Refocus**

Visioneering is launching it’s ‘Review, Revise and Refocus’ Initiative in 2009. We will hold several meetings around the Visioneering foundations to review what has been accomplished, revise the strategies if necessary and refocus our efforts going forward. RDOH is part of the Quality of Life Foundation. More information will be available in January.

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**Next Steps:** Brenda has invited Sally Frey with the Offender Reentry Program.

**Next Meeting:** January 21, 2009, CCSR