



**Great Start Collaborative
School Readiness/Family Support Committee
January 14, 2021**

MINUTES

Present: Becca Hurst, Jean Allison, Jennifer Ganzel, Chrissy Blackwell, Resha Willis, Marcia Hills-Hoxie, Jen Houston, Jackie Barber, Cathy Brubaker, Kathy Hoszkiw, Mary Belknap, Kristin Klug, Kymalee Gresh, Mary Belknap, Bonnie Minier, Wendy Bell

Welcome – “throw the ball and ask a question”. Participants threw their “ball” and asked some fun and interesting questions.

Review of December 2020 minutes –

- No changes were made.

Great Start Families – Jen Ganzel

- Little Free Libraries are still going strong. Many partnerships being created to get books despite the inability to host community book drives.
- On-line learning has been taking place with such topics as: Love and Logic on-line webinar. The webinar was recorded but not sure if the recordings are open to non-members. Jen will email a link to Chrissy if it is available for viewing.
- Trusted Advisors though the month of November and December worked, through a grant from Henry Ford, to distribute 5,500 Kinsa Smart Thermometers into the community.
- Grow Jackson is a new partnership the Trusted Advisors have made. Grow Jackson is focused on food distribution and resources in Jackson County. www.growjackson.org
- A poster has been created with the Trusted Advisor information. If any committee members would like one or need to use the Trusted Advisors call Jen Ganzel at 517-745-9544.

Child Data Update – Jean Allison/Cathy Brubaker/Wendy Bell

- Data was shared specific to Highscope and Teaching Strategies (TS) Gold. All of this data is from children in GSRP. GSRP children are categorized as “at risk”.
- TS Gold goes from Birth to 3rd grade
- Highscope is targeted at preschool
- Highs = Fine Motor (art is high, scissors)
- Lows = Phonological Awareness,

- Interesting finds = Reading Fluently score is in relation to “not yet” because we are not expecting our preschoolers to be reading fluently at this time. 95% are “not yet” reading fluently.
- Next data collection is end of February
- Depending on the child data collection, that may trigger a child to go before the Child Study team to talk about areas of challenge/need in their development and learning.
- Many children had to participate in virtual and remote learning during the beginning of this school year. This has impacted the areas of strength in the child data.

Kindergarten Transition Kits

- Kelly S. reviewed all of the materials that have been in the 20-21 kit
 - Alphabet chart, emotion chart, _____
- Question was asked about getting parent feedback. Idea was had about putting a QR code on the instructional sheet. Postcards were tried in the past.
- The group liked the items that were used in the past. Kelly S. and the early childhood team will move forward with the ordering process.

Bright by Text

- The Whole Child team at the ISD have partnered with the early childhood team to bring Bright by Text to the community.
- The Whole Child’s Mental Health Endowment Fund grant will be used to pay for the first year.
- Chrissy will be trained February 2nd and will be able to bring more information to this group to begin the marketing process and get families signed up.
- This focuses on ages 0-8, just as the Great Start Collaborative.
- Community messaging will be an option that this group will develop the parameters for.

Updates

- Playgroups – Resha Willis: Doing virtual craft zooms for families. December 20 craft kits, January 40 craft kits. Planning on making 40 for February. 4 kids have been consistent on a weekly basis with the crafts. 2 weeks ago Resha created a Tuesday family group for parents to talk through issues/make social connections/etc.. Resha is starting to plan on a “Baby Babble” group specific to the infants and helping families.
- Head Start and GSRP preschools still have openings!
- CAA – Kristin Klug: Early Head Start program also has space at CAA.
- 500 backpacks have been distributed by the ISD to GSRP partners to send home with all GSRP students. 2500 books were also distributed through this effort.

- Jen Ganzel secured 2,000 children face masks for distribution to the Playgroups, GSRP and GSRP/HS classrooms.
- Integro – Jessica Hendricks: Openings in the Infant Mental health program. Spread the word.
- Mary Belknap shared a “Babies and Screen Time” webinar offered by the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood. info@screentimenetwork.org
- Chrissy reminded everyone to sign up for the Great Start Collaborative newsletter and pass the information onto their families. Sign up at www.greatstartjackson.org

NEXT MEETING: February 11th 1pm – 2:30pm via Zoom

Simple Data Comparisons Fall 20-21 GSRP

HighScope	Fall	Winter	Spring	Growth
Phonological Awareness	1.85			
Reading	2.52			
Data Analysis	2.58			
Fine Motor	3.07			
Art	3.33			

Fall

TS Gold	Below	Meet	Exceeds	
15 A Discriminates Rhyme	93.4			
15 c Notices and discriminates discrete units of sound	93.05			
8b Following Directions		81.95		
7b. Uses writing and drawing tools.		66.96		
4. Demonstrates Traveling Skills		83.4		
18 e. Reads Fluently		95.02		Not Yet *

*This does not mean that 95.02% of the children can read fluently. It means that 95.02% of the children meet the expectations for a 4 year-old-child which is Not Yet.