

Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
School Readiness Committee Meeting
February 21st, 2018
2:00 – 3:00 pm
Family Service and Children's Aid



Present: Stasia Milligan, Cathy Brubaker, Jean Allison, Tammy Cushard, Wendy Bell, Elizabeth Hyatt, Crystal Parmentier, Lisa Hunt, Stephanie Denney, Kelly Sheppard, Kelly Friedland, Chrissy Blackwell

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Completed introductions and inclusion activity.

2. Review January Minutes

- Group reviewed January minutes.

3. Summer Literacy Labs/Nerd Camp Jr.

- Summer Literacy Labs
 - The idea to bring these to Jackson came from work being done in Lenawee County.
 - We have received \$5000 in grant dollars from the Consumers Energy Foundation to provide Literacy Labs throughout the county.
 - We are working with an ISD Literacy Consultant.
 - We are partnering with Energizing Education.
 - Chrissy Blackwell reached out to the community through a Facebook post to find a fun name for the events rather than Literacy Labs.
 - There will be 6 dates throughout the summer.
 - We are currently brainstorming locations, but are focusing on pockets of need, Meet Up and Eat Up locations, and libraries.
 - Time frame will be 10 am – noon on weekdays.
 - Parents mentioned this is a good time for some children, but not all because of naptime.
 - Weekdays work well.

- Nerd Camp Jr.
 - Free event at Western High School, 1st – 9th grade.
 - Authors attend and talk to kids about writing/publishing books.
 - We will be attending and will provide a parent education piece.
 - Registration will open in May. Included in registration will be a survey that asks parents what type of education they are interested in.

4. Preschool Data Dig

- Program Quality Assessment Data Report (PQA)
 - Countywide data that shows how our programs came out.
 - Blue is a negative change. Green is a positive change.
 - Every administrator can look at their own scores.
 - Referral area went up.
 - Special education partnering is going on this year, so children are being identified sooner.
 - In addition to special education, trauma referrals are coming in as well.
 - Service training is down, but once administrators know the pieces, it is easy to pick this up.
 - Because Dibble is a new program, it is considered provisionally licensed, so the data here will be low until they become licensed.
 - Operating policies/procedures
 - Are there ramps and rails? Are doorways wide enough? This area can often be low because of the buildings age, which is out of the programs control.
 - Staff area is low, but this is because GSRP has a large turnover.
 - Family-centered enrollment measures how much time families spend in the classroom before it actually starts. Open houses, etc.
- High Scope/TS Gold Assessment
 - Highscope N and O (phonological rhyme) is low. This will be the focus of the trainings so that scores will go up by the end of the year.
 - Highscope and TS Gold are both telling us literacy is low.

- Math – there is a difference between recognizing numbers and counting. Children can't do math until they understand quantity. Math PD's will focus on this.
- Elizabeth Hyatt (parent) stated that she didn't know that her child was being accessed.
- Lisa Hunt shared that they have talked about a parent friendly way to get information to parents and how parents/teachers can partner together to work on skills at home to prepare children for kindergarten.
 - Have been thinking about a daily feedback system (right now they do weekly).
 - Parent report will be handed out at parent teacher conferences.
- All of this work is done so that our GSRP classrooms remain high-quality and focus on what the children need educationally in order to get them to their full potential.
- Cathy Brubaker stated that teachers should show this data to their parents because it shows the amount of work that teachers are putting into each child in order to help them succeed.

5. Announcements

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 21st 2018 from 2:00-3:00 pm at Family Service and Children's Aid.