

Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
School Readiness Committee
August 15th, 2017
4:00-5:00 pm
Family Service and Children's Aid



Present: Catherine Brubaker, Jean Allison, Irene LeCrone, Kristy Storm, Kathy Hoszkiw, Brenda Webster, Tammy Cushard, Bob Powell, Kelly Sheppard, Chrissy Blackwell

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Completed introductions

2. Preschool Updates

- MDE has decided that individual ISD's now get to choose supplementals where they see fit without approval from MDE.
- Worked with special education this year for child placement into GSRP classrooms.
- This may be our last year for PALS in kindergarten because of the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA), which will measure more than literacy skills.
- Dibble Elementary is a new site this year.
- St. Mary's has ended their GSRP program. Their materials (supplies, furniture, etc.) have been distributed to Dibble and other sites as needed.
- Springport is opening another preschool classroom but they aren't set up to do GSRP this year.
- Grass Lake increased to 32 children, Napoleon increased to 16, Phoenix (Kibby and East) will be reduced due to the need for assistant teachers.

3. Early Childhood Survey Review

- Before leaving a teaching team, the ECS's will ask if the teachers have any questions/need guidance.
- #12 was written by preschool teacher. This was not the intent of Building Bridges, instead was meant to advocate for a seamless transition, the intent was for preschool and kindergarten teachers to understand what each other is doing.
- Literacy essentials will continue this year.
- GSRP children are all at risk for something. This should be conveyed along with income requirements, so that the general public understands.
- What is the role of the ECS? This will be added so that the new teachers coming in will understand.

4. Building Bridges (ideas for next year?)

- Ask kindergarten teachers in a survey- what is the vocabulary that you would like children to know before entering kindergarten, what are the skills you would like them to know?
- Have leading questions from a panel of veteran teachers (P&K) - ie. Educator's Summit.
- Educate on trauma – Handle with Care.

Next meeting: September 19th, 2017 from 4:00-5:00 pm at Family Service and Children's Aid