

Great Start Collaborative Meeting Notes
June 28, 2018, 1:30 – 3pm
Kent ISD Transitions Center

Attendees:

Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Jessica Turk, Anthony Queen, Leslie Hawkins, Paula Brown

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Maureen Hale

Agenda Item: Approval of April 19, 2018 minutes

Agenda Item: Great Start Parent Coalition Report

Courtney Myers-Keaton

Jessica Turk

- July 12th there will be a Family Friends Neighbor celebration/home base provider celebration. Dinner and childcare will be provided. Attendees will learn how to connect every day play to learning. They will leave with great resources to use with children they care for. The families they care for are also welcome to come.
- Wrapping up CSSP. Working with refugee providers. Gauge their sense of the early childhood service. What are the gaps and barriers they experience. Hope to have the input given from all three groups to guide our strategic plan and action agenda going forward
- Parent Need Advocacy Surveys have been dispersed around the community. 60 completed but still working on getting those completed.
- Great Start Parent Coalition's Diaper Drive: 22,910 diapers collected for the drive. Easterseals won with over 9000 diapers collected.

Agenda Item: Inclusion Activity

Agenda Item: First Steps Update

Heather Boswell

Amy Turner-Thole

- Kara Bilkert is the new shared data position for K Connect. Data and outcomes used to show measurable progress in early childhood in our community.
- Pritzker Children's Initiative: First Steps is applying to hire an Early Childhood fellow, only three will be chosen across the country. This position will be coordinated with the data position. The West Michigan children's???, K Connect, KISD are all working together.
- Millage Presentation: The Millage is officially on the ballot for November. 12 – 1:30pm before the next GSC meeting there may be a training to help prepare people to support the campaign. Request to share out the news story about the millage being approved. How much of the millage will go to overhead and how much to direct services? \$500,000 for administering when it was a .5 millage. \$1 million for data and dropping down to 500,000 per year. Data is necessary and will cost what it costs initially but then should reduce over time. \$3.5 – \$4 million for direct services and going up over time. \$730,000 is received from the Kent County Prevention Initiative each year. The proposal from the county is that the funding will continue to be given. Please let FSK know if there is a group you are a part of that you would like to hear about the millage and why it's important.

Agenda Item: Success Basics Launch Update**Chana Edmond-Verley**

There will be a July meeting for NPP. In August and September there will be rollouts happening. Sign up went around meeting to give the opportunity for organizations and staff to learn more about this.

Agenda Item: GSC Updates**Maureen Hale****Paula Brown**

- 2018/2019 GSC Planning: Fiscal year is ending in September. We have a year between our strategic plans. We will be working on the new strategic plan as well as the action agenda. At the August meeting we will be looking for input and how the action agenda should look for the next year. Workgroups are tied to action agenda items. We will use small group activities during the meeting to help plan. We will also use the information from the GSC evaluation and our budget to help frame the work.
- Local Program Funds RFP Review Team: An RFP was put out for \$40,000 for our local program funds. Ten proposals came back. LIST THE ORGANIZATIONS. Paula can share what the proposals are for those that are interested. We need volunteers to help review the proposals. There will be two executive team members, two general GSC members, two parent members, and one community member. We have a rubric to help guide the process. Most likely will be one grant. We cannot have members on the review team that are part of the organizations that applied. Leslie will send the rubric out to the group. How much time will it take? Will address once the team is formed.

Partner Announcements

- Reyna: At Rosa Parks Circle there will be a rally this Saturday at 11am supporting the families whose children are being taken from them at the border. This whole situation is very painful for the Latino community.
- Claire Horlings introduced herself from KDL. She is replacing Linda Krombeem and will have a member of her staff representing the library going forward.
- Kristyn WGVU: Kids day at the zoo is Thursday August 2nd from 9am – 4pm. \$4 reduced rate to enter. Tickets will be available at Meijer. Free event outside the zoo, Be My Neighbor. At the event WGVU will be supporting the diaper drive, making a large push to encourage the community to donate diapers. Go to wgvu.org for more information. PNC is there as well with Daniel the Tiger and Trolley.
- Maggie July 31st is the Day of Play proclaimed by the Mayor. 10am – 2pm at Anabawen Park. Will be a yearly event.
- Comprehensive Therapy; Thursday parent meetings at 9am open to the public. Takes place at Temple Emmanuel on Fulton. Will send list of topics.
- GSRP is still doing intakes. Looking for 4 years old by 9/1 ideally but can apply in 12/1. We are low enrollment in Grand Rapids downtown. Need Godfrey Lee, South Godwin, and Kelloggsville. NW side GR and SE side as well. Word of mouth is the best way to spread the word for free preschool. The areas that are not filling out have a large Latino community. Marketing/spreading the word would look different. Ashley and Anastasia may connect to problem solve.