

Next Meeting January 15, 2013
Early Childhood Literacy Coalition
Minutes
East Lansing Public Library
October 16, 2012

Present: Lynn Harper, CADL; Deb Hill, Karen Woodman, CACS Head Start; Karen Black, Clinton Great Start Collaborative; Becky Le Boeuf, Delta Township District Library; Mindy Schafer, DeWitt Library; Ronda Rucker, Eaton Great Start Collaborative; Mary Jo Gallagher, East Lansing Public Library; Emily Baker, Ingham Great Start Collaborative; Lori Noyer, Office for Young Children; Beany Tomber, WKAR

Minutes of the September 2012 meeting were reviewed. They were corrected to add that DeWitt Library has also made a financial commitment to pay for a character.

Emily Baker announced that Ingham Great Start will be able to contribute \$200 toward expenses for the Kick Off event..

There was some discussion about the difficulty of sending and receiving emails through the eclc list serve. Beany Tomber said she would discuss this with her IT person and asked others to do the same to try and solve the problem.

Planning for Literacy Weeks and March 17 Kick Off Event

Characters

It was decided that five characters were enough for the two week period and that all characters would be at the Kick Off. Karen Woodman felt that we would have enough volunteers to wear and guide the characters with the Maple Valley Honor Society students. The schedule is as follows:

Maisy and Clifford – available for the first week

Olivia, George and Pete – available the second week.

Ronda Rucker will send the scheduling form out following today's meeting and the deadline for its return is Nov. 15. No preference will be given to a site because they have paid for a particular character. **(Schedule form sent!)**

If an agency wants two consecutive days with the same character or two times in one day with a character, they will indicate that on one form as one request.

Ronda will send the schedule to Karen Woodman by Dec. 1 to design the flyer. Karen will send it out to all members before the January meeting. No changes will be made after the flyer has been okayed by members at the meeting.

It was agreed that the characters would each be assigned to one agency area and stay there during the time they are out. At 3 o'clock all characters will appear on stage to say goodbye.

Performers

After discussion, it was decided that Mary Jo Gallagher will confirm Tunes 'N Tales by Tricia for two performances during the afternoon. She was authorized to sign a contract with Tricia and will try to keep the amount paid to \$200. Performances will be scheduled for 20 minutes.

Other Activities

Members discussed whether we should have a storyteller again this year, switch to a puppet show or have both. It was decided that having both these extra activities would distract from the time that families could spend at the different booths and would be too much. We decided to go with a puppet show immediately following each performance. This will allow us to offer something new for families who are repeat participants. Deb Hill will talk with the Capital Area Center for Independent Living and ask them to do two shows of 20 minutes each. This is a volunteer group.

Mary Jo will tell Kari how much we have appreciated her participation in the past.

We spent quite a bit of time trying to figure out the optimal schedule for the day. Karen Black will come up with a schedule and send to all before the next meeting. (**She did!**)

Promotion

Mark Buzzitta will be asked to do radio and television promotion on various programs again this year. WKAR will do an on air promotion spot before the March 17 Kick Off event.

Agencies that have bags to contribute will do so. We will not do a prize drawing this year but will continue to distribute evaluation sheets and make a big effort to collect them as people leave.

Set Up

Again this year the agencies will be divided between the two gyms with Head Start and WKAR in the East Gym with Clifford and George and the Great Start Collaboratives and the Libraries in the West Gym with Maisy, Olivia and Pete. Other agencies, such as Family Outreach Services and OYC will join with one of these groups.

Other

Lori Noyer shared some sad news with the Coalition. As of December 31, six positions will be eliminated at OYC. It is not clear yet which these will be. Lori will keep us informed. OYC has been a valued member of the Coalition since its inception and we all share the hope that it will continue to be with us.

It was decided that there was no need for a November or December meeting. All assignments can be done electronically. We will meet again on Tuesday, January 15 at 8:45 at the East Lansing Public Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

