

Ingham Great Start Collaborative
Operations Committee Meeting Notes
Thursday, June 8, 2017 - 2:30–5:00 pm
Harley Franks Early Childhood Center, 2924 Newark Avenue, Lansing

Attendance: Effie Alofoje-Carr, Jessica Baker, Wendy Boyce, Fran Jozefowicz, Laurie Linscott, Lucy McClintic, Corrie Mervyn, Michelle Nicholson, Stephanie Thelen

1. The 6/8/17 Operations Committee Meeting Agenda and 4/13/17 Operations Committee Meeting Notes were approved as stated.

- 2. Inclusion Activity – Parent Café Question**

Today's Parent Café Question was from one of the Five Protective Factors - Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development, "*How are humor and fun important in your parenting or in the work that you do?*" The following responses were shared:

- Humor helps you keep your sanity.
- I use humor as a strategy to de-escalate situations.
- I use humor so that I don't cry.
- I use humor to stop tantrums.
- Humor is used as an educational piece or learning tool through stories and experiences.

- 3. Family Engagement**

- **Parent Speak Event** – Ingham GSC is part of the 2-Gen Workgroup of the Student Transition Action Team, which is one of the workgroups of the Coalition of College and Career Readiness (C3R). The 2-Gen Workgroup planned and hosted the Parent Speak Event held on April 25, 2017, at Lansing Community College. The purpose of this event was to address barriers (quality child care, transportation, financial assistance, employment, housing, etc.) student parents may face when navigating the education system. Eleven diverse parent speakers (8th grade to doctoral candidates) shared their personal stories with a Listening Panel of key stakeholders in the community, as well as general audience members. Survey feedback from the Listening Panel was shared with Operations members, including possible next steps. A video clip, highlighting the parent speakers, is anticipated to be completed by the end of June.

Related to the Parent Speak event, the possibility of CCAMPIS funding being eliminated has been discussed as a barrier to student parents enrolling and persisting in post-secondary education. It was previously thought the funding would be eliminated; however, a new RFP was released with potential decreased funding. LCC plans to submit for continued CCAMPIS funding, and is unsure of the impact of the decrease.

Operations members discussed the need to provide information about available resources to students/potential students, who may either be cautious to ask for support, or who are not aware of the available support services. The Great Start to Quality website provides information and connections to licensed childcare providers; however, there is a lack of awareness in the community, along with a lack of marketing to increase the awareness. The GSC Workplan addresses the need to engage parents and providers in understanding quality and the Star Rating System, and the discussion is ongoing.

- **Parent Cafes** – Jessica reported she and Kae Dubay are working to plan and sustain additional Parent Cafés. Parent Café events were recently held at Oak Park YMCA and Averill Elementary in Lansing. Jessica continues communication with staff at Averill, specifically teachers who work with students with special needs.
- **Shared Pregnancy** – Jessica attended the Shared Pregnancy education component on May 31, 2017. Moms in attendance had infants, toddlers, or were expecting. Jessica shared the Ingham Early Learning Calendar, highlighted child/family activities found on the Calendar, and talked about other community events. Feedback from moms regarding the Calendar was positive, which included having all information

organized in one tool that could be reused as children age. Jessica plans to check in with Shared Pregnancy in the coming months.

- **Family Coalition Meetings** – Meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of the month, from 6:30-8:00pm. There will *not* be a meeting in July. Jessica is in communication with Spartan Child Development Center about using their facility beginning in the fall.

4. **Trusted Advisors Grant**

Grant award announcement(s) are delayed until the end of June, 2017.

5. **Mid-Michigan Trauma Coalition – Working Toward a Trauma-Informed Community**

GSC Co-Coordinator attended the Steering Committee of the Mid-Michigan Trauma Coalition on May 31, 2017. The Coalition is focused on our community becoming trauma informed. Representation on the Steering Committee included MSU, Ingham County Health Department, the Lansing Police Department, Community Mental Health, Head Start, Child & Family Charities, etc. Recently, Jackson County shared the trauma-informed work they are doing with “Handle with Care” with the Mid-Michigan Trauma Coalition. “Handle with Care” is a program meant to alert schools when a child has experienced a traumatic event to be able to provide support to the child during the school day. Michelle plans to attend a follow-up “Handle with Care” presentation June 20, 2017, in Jackson, and extended the invitation to other Operations Members. Eaton County has also had discussion about using “Handle with Care.”

A first step for the Coalition may be to begin the process of gathering data of who in the community has had trauma training. ISAP Coordinator, Melea Bullock, offers trauma training at little to no cost. An additional need in our community related to ISAP, is information for parents regarding marijuana use and the effect on children.

6. **Operations Committee and GSC Meeting Dates**

- **GSC Meeting in July?** – The July Operations and GSC meetings will be dependent upon progress made on the strategic planning process, with determination made after the June GSC Meeting.
- **FY18 Operations Meeting Schedule** – The consensus was for the Operations Committee to continue to meet the second Thursday of the month and GSC to meet the third Wednesday on the month for FY2018.

7. **FY17 GSC Strategic Planning**

- **Initial Strategy Prioritization / Turning Goal Descriptors and Labels into Goals and Objectives** – GSC staff has done some behind-the-scenes work to group like “strategies” developed at the May GSC Meeting into clusters, and then used the “*Example Systems Change Strategies*” document to identify an overarching Strategy that encapsulated the “strategies.” Op Comm members divided into two small groups and used the “*ABLE Powerful Strategy Checklist*” to initially prioritize the Strategies. At the June GSC Meeting, members will review prioritized Strategies and will generate a list of activities to include in the Action Agenda of the Strategic Plan. After prioritizing Strategies, Op Comm members worked on re-stating the negative language of Goal Descriptors and Labels into positive statements of Goals and Objectives.

8. **Plan 6/21/17 GSC Meeting Agenda**

- **Location** - Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd, Lansing (corner of Mt. Hope /Boston Blvd.)
- **Inclusion Activity** – Parent Café Question, “*How are humor and fun important in your parenting or in the work that you do?*”
- **Responsibility** – The Early On Annual Report will be shared at the June GSC Meeting.
- **FY17 Strategic Planning** – The recommendation was made to project Strategy examples and checklist to confirm the Strategies meet the criteria of a “good” Strategy. Members will also generate a list of activities to include in the Action Agenda of the Strategic Plan.
- **Target Group Work** – TBD. Work could include identifying how current activities align with new Strategies. It was suggested to celebrate in August to highlight “small wins,” as well as completion of the 2017-20 Strategic Plan.
- **Evaluation Activity**
- **Chair:** Laurie Linscott **Timekeeper:** Barb Monroe

9. Updates

- The School Aid Bill has gone through Conference committees with recommendations being proposed. More information will be shared once the State budget has passed.
- Fran reported that Melissa Threadgould will now attend the GSC and LLG meetings due to increased responsibility for Fran at CMH. Fran will continue to attend the Operations meetings. This change will be effective in July or August.
- Marianne Fant has transitioned to a new position at CACS Head Start that will include early childhood mental health and special education.

Review next meeting dates and times:

GSC meetings: 6/21/17 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church
7/19/17 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church (Tentative)

Operations Committee meetings: 7/13/17 from 2:30 – 5:00 pm at Harley Franks (Tentative)
8/10/17 from 2:30 – 5:00 pm at Harley Franks

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*Visit the Ingham GSC website at <http://www.InghamGreatStart.org>
for Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars, the Ingham Children's Action Agenda and more.
Check out our Facebook Page at <http://www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart>*