

School Readiness Advisory Committee

Minutes – September 28, 2017

4:00 – 6:00 pm

Cavanaugh STEAM Elementary School, Lansing, MI

Introductions/Approval of May minutes:

Members present: Laurie Linscott, Lucy McClintic, Gloria Sabourin, MaryJo Wegenke, Nicole Greiter, Michelle Nicholson, Marisela Garza, Wendy Boyce, Kim Fiebernitz, Jamie Yeomans, and visiting teacher Laurie Herndon.

May Minutes Approved

Teacher/Parent Voice:

Cavanaugh Kindergarten teacher Laurie Herndon was asked to comment on what she does before school or during the first week of school to help children and their families prepare for Kindergarten. Ms. Herndon shared that Cavanaugh has ½ days for the first week of school. No home visits are done at this time. Week 1 focused on socio-emotional lessons, rather than academic lessons. Ms. Herndon also shared that it would be helpful to receive Headstart paperwork earlier (sometimes never receives), as well as more understandable GSRP reports. Regarding Kindergarten Roundup, Ms. Herndon thought that it might be helpful to have a Speech and Language Pathologist, hearing/vision screenings, and interpreters available.

Yearly Goals and Membership Recruitment:

Recruitment goals will continue to focus on inviting parents and Kindergarten teachers to attend meetings in effort to have them share their thoughts and concerns. Our next meeting will be located at a school in East Lansing.

Another committee goal will be to track the distribution of the Ingham Early Learning Calendar, as well as Kindergarten Readiness Packet.

A final goal will be to interview administrators and Kindergarten teachers in all districts regarding Kindergarten Roundup and the first week of school transition plan. A follow-up attachment will be sent with questions for the following committee members to ask their assigned district and bring to the November SRAC meeting: Dansville (Nicole), East Lansing (Gloria), Haslett (Laurie), Holt (Michelle), Lansing (MaryJo), Leslie (Nicole), Mason (Lucy), Okemos (Jamie), Stockbridge (MaryJo), Waverly (Corey), Webberville (Michelle), and Williamston (Wendy).

Third Grade Reading Resources:

MaryJo presented on the “Planning for 3rd Grade Literacy Success”, “Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy”, “Essential Coaching for Elementary Literacy”, and “Parents Read at Home Tools for Student Success” resource guides. These guides were designed for parents and educators and are available from MaryJo and Ingham ISD.

MaryJo also mentioned that the Ingham ISD is in the process of developing an Early Literacy Calendar for K-3.

Trusted Advisors Grant:

Michelle reported that Lansing Cultural Brokers will be translating the Kindergarten Readiness Packet this month. The Early Learning Calendar will be translated next on a month to month basis. These materials will be translated into the following languages: Arabic, Spanish, Burmese, Nepali, Vietnamese, Somali, and Swahili.

Ingham Early Learning Calendar:

The committee discussed how to distribute the final calendars over this school year before revising and reprinted in Sept. 2018. Committee members will check with their agencies and report at the November meeting numbers needed for this year.

Kindergarten Readiness Packets:

Agencies reported on their Conference Distribution. Headstart distributes at Spring Conferences. Spartan CDC provides to families at Fall Conferences. Committee members will follow-up with GSRP programs to determine when they distribute.

Joint Preschool Application Funding Update:

Senate Appropriations has a Supplemental Funding Proposal that would allow children who turn 4 between Sept. 1 – Dec. 1 to attend GSRP for the 2017-18 School Year.

Agenda items “Review GSC website” and “GSRP Responsibilities” will be moved to the November agenda.

Closing: The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 30, 2017 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Location will be announced when the agenda is sent in November.