

Ingham Great Start Collaborative

Our vision: Every child is ready to succeed in school and life.

Ingham GSC Meeting Notes – February 10, 2016, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

LOCATION: **Grace United Methodist Church - 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing**

I. Welcome and Working Agreements

Chairperson: MC Rothhorn

Time Keeper: Laurie Linscott

Present: Effie Alofoje-Carr, Jessica Baker-Parent Liaison, Barbara Ball-McClure-MSU College of Human Medicine, Karen Batterham-DHHS, Wendy Boyce-GSC/GPGS, Lori Brasic-CRC, Lisa Chambers-ICHHD, Dorothy Cooks-IISD/GPGS, Camiah Dear-Parent, Nicole Greiter-Dansville Public Schools/Willow Tree, Pat Hemmingway-CAUW, Karen Hoffman-CACS Head Start, Laurie Linscott-MSU CDL, Lucy McClintic-CACS Head Start, Corrie Mervyn-IISD/GSRP, Emettra Nelson-Parent, Travis Neller-ERESA, Robin Pizzo-LCC, Sarah Riggs-Parent, Thais Rousseau-CADL, MC Rothhorn-Parent Coordinator, Isa Solis-Strong Start Healthy Start, Casey Sterle-Leslie Public Schools, Stephanie Thelen-IISD, Ebony Thomas-DRM, Gretchen VanArsdale-LSD ECSE

Prior to today's meeting, Corrie Mervyn was interviewed by WLNS Channel 6 to respond to the Governor's 2016-17 budget and proposed increase in K-12 funding. Corrie stressed the importance of high-quality preschool programs, including Great Start Readiness Program, on future school success. See the interview at the following link:

Today's Inclusion Activity: Members introduced themselves and their agency role, and used the first initial of their first or last name to describe their parenting style and/or their season of life. The 2/10/16 Agenda and 1/13/16 Meeting Notes were approved as stated.

II. Norm of Collaboration

Putting ideas on the table

(and when to pull them off!)

Label the intention of your comments:

- "Here is one idea..."
- "One thought I have is..."
- "Here is a possible approach..."
- "Another consideration might be..."

III. Responsibility - 2016-17 Community Needs Assessment and Application and Slot Prioritization Process for GSRP.

The GSC is an advisory body to the Great Start Readiness Program—a state-funded preschool program for at-risk 4 year olds. As the advisory body, the GSC is responsible for approving the number of GSRP slots requested and the process for awarding slots. Approval for the FY 2016-17 Application and process was motioned by MC Rothhorn, seconded by Casey Sterle, and unanimously endorsed by GSC attendees.

Effie Alofoje-Carr recommended the Local Leadership Group (LLG) act as the advisory body for the Ingham Healthy Families (IHF) Program, in place of Ingham GSC. Much of the work is currently happening at LLG meetings, and the LLG would have a greater understanding of IHF for an accreditation scheduled in 2017. The recommendation was motioned by Corrie Mervyn, seconded by Nicole Greiter, and unanimously approved by the GSC.

V. Target Groups - Voice and Connection

- A. Assign note taker and time keeper.
- B. Review Notes from November GSC Shared Agendas and discuss the following questions:
 1. What progress has been made on the actions of the focused Activity(ies)? **Based on progress made, what are next steps?**
 2. Is there a champion doing this work that should be contacted and/or invited to GSC meetings?

The notes from Target Group work during the meeting can be found on the Shared Agenda of each group at <http://inghamgreatstart.org/gsc-birth-to-five-meeting-agendas-and-minutes/>.

VI. Spotlight - The School Readiness Advisory Committee (SRAC) will provide an update on the Quality Target Group activity to review and revise definition of school readiness and increase awareness definition.

Laurie Linscott, a member of the SRAC, shared the rationale and process for reviewing and developing an Ingham definition of school readiness. The Committee is comprised of families, preschool and kindergarten teachers, program supervisors, and community members. A cross walk of the assessment tools used in preschool classrooms, including TS Gold and COR, was done with the indicators included in the proposed Kindergarten Entry Assessment, to develop the definition. Many families provided feedback, which was incorporated into the draft. The definition is part of the packet shared today, which also includes a letter to families and Guides from Michigan Department of Education. A bibliography (proposed to be developed by Capital Area District Library) of kindergarten transition books will also be included in the packet. The packet will be distributed throughout the community, including to families at kindergarten roundups and other outreach events, as well as on the GSC website at http://inghamgreatstart.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Kindergarten-Readiness-Packet_2.pdf.

VII. General Updates

- 3/19/16: Lecture at LCC East on caring for elderly loved ones from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.; and 4/23/16: Eating Healthy on a Budget will be held at Union Baptist Church. Contact Barbara Ball-McClure at Barbara.Ball-McClure@hc.msu.edu.
- 4/12/16: The [MSU Science Festival](#) begins in East Lansing.
- 4/16/16: [Greater Lansing Baby Fair](#) kicks off 10 am - 2pm, at the Lansing Center.
- Get information about free tax preparation services at www.myfreetaxes.com or by contacting 211.
- The [Allen Street Farmer's Market](#) has a breastfeeding room for nursing mothers.
- Various health education workshops are offered through Strong Start Healthy Start <http://www.strongstarthealthystart.org/health-education>
- All episodes of [Raising of America](#) (ROA) can be viewed at no cost until February 15. The GSC also has copies of episodes available for check out.
- [DRM International Training Center](#) is offering accelerated CNA and Phlebotomy training courses for parents.

**The next GSC Meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2016,
from 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Grace United Methodist Church.**

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