

**Next Meeting, September 20, 2011**  
Early Childhood Literacy Coalition Minutes  
East Lansing Public Library  
June 21, 2011

Sentences in bold indicate action needed before the next meeting.

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

Members introduced themselves. Mark Buzzitta will no longer be attending meetings on a regular basis representing CADL. Lynn Harper is the CADL representative. Beth Revers is no longer at the DeWitt Library so she will not be attending Coalition meetings.

The minutes of the April meeting were reviewed. There were no changes or additions.

**Plans for 2012 Literacy Events**

Hannah Center has been reserved for the Kick Off event on March 18, 2012. Literacy weeks will be March 19-30.

Performers

Evaluations from last year's event and by members suggested that we might go with fewer performers, that the performances should be shorter to match the attention span of young children, and that more music should be included on the program. The following suggestions were made to consider.

Paula Doak - puppets

Mary Music Maker – music and sign language. Becky LeBoeuf will hear her at Delta Township Library and report back.

**Mary Jo is compiling a list of performers for the MLA and will send this list out to Coalition members before the next meeting for us to consider.**

Discussion followed on if we should continue to use last year's performers and if so, what changes might be made.

- Jean Bolley has been an excellent MC for us. Because our target audience is children 3-6, we could ask her to do a shorter segment with more interaction this year. Also we might not be able to pay her with our limited budget.
- Rob Stephenson – Everyone liked his performance and it is very interactive. Again, we might not be able to pay.

We will be looking at what other possibilities there are before we make a decision.

Characters

We might work around a theme or specific book and consider how this would relate to the characters. We might have a local author to highlight a book.

We will have four characters for the Kick Off and two more for Literacy Weeks. .

**Everyone should look at the web site and be prepared to choose characters at the next meeting. [costumespecialists.com](http://costumespecialists.com).** The costumes are free and the shipping costs are usually about \$190.

The following agencies will be responsible for paying for a character: Head Start, CADL, E.L. Library, Delta Township Library, Clinton Great Start, and Eaton Great Start. Because ordering and storage has become more difficult for CADL, the suggestion was made that each agency that is paying for a costume do the ordering and storage of that character. WKAR will pay for Hannah Center

Discussion then turned to how to handle the difficulties of transporting the characters from site to site. Ideas included having characters assigned to each county, having characters at different locations and agencies asking to be connected with the closest character, and either requesting a character or being willing to take what was most convenient. (Ronda Rucker felt that the scheduling itself was not a problem and she was willing to continue doing it.) Decisions on how to order and transport characters will be decided at the next meeting.

It was decided that agencies could provide a character to another location while at their site as long as the integrity of the purpose was maintained. `

#### Promotion

If we can not afford to print both the full brochure with the schedule at all sites and a Kick Off flyer, it was decided that it was more important to print the flyer. The full information on the brochure will be available electronically to all members to print as well as on the CADL web site. **Lori Noyer will get the template for both the brochure and the flyer from CADL and OYC will be responsible for doing the camera ready copies. Emily Baker will ask IISD what their cash contribution can be for 2012 toward printing costs.**

#### Activities

Break out rooms could be used for various activities. i.e. storytelling, hands on make and take, etc. If these are at different levels, there could be a problem with strollers. We will need to ask Jennifer at Hannah Center how to work with this. If there a possibility of getting the other half of the gym, this could be used for music. Again we need to check with Jennifer.

Lynn Harper will ask Mark Buzzitta if he knows where the Coalition brochures are.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 8:45 am at East Lansing Public Library.**