

Early Childhood Literacy Coalition  
Minutes  
East Lansing Public Library  
May 15, 2012

Present: Lynn Harper, CADL; Becky Le Boeuf, Delta Township District Library; Ronda Rucker, Eaton Great Start Collaborative; Mary Jo Gallagher, East Lansing Public Library; Emily Baker, Ingham Great Start Collaborative; Beany Tomber, WKAR

Minutes of the February 2012 meeting were reviewed.

### **Evaluation of 2012 Literacy Events**

#### **Kick Off Event**

- Attendance was down some from last year. We handed out bags to 123 families. From the evaluation forms handed in, we get a count of 118 adults and 120 children. It was suggested that the number of adults be counted, if possible, at registration to get a more accurate count.
- Registration went smoothly with one staff person and one volunteer pre stuffing the bags with the book and the evaluation/drawing slip.
- Everyone thought the new set up, using both sides of the gym and grouping similar agencies together, worked very well.
- The performer and the music were wonderful. (We needed to keep her on schedule.) Also shorter performances were more appropriate for young children.
- The storytellers were very popular. It was stressed that we need a good mike for storytellers to use next year to make it easier for all to hear them.
- The activities were good, particularly the movement ones. Several suggestions were made for next year – we should have some activities for very young children and we should have a handout with each activity explaining why it helps build literacy skills. Be more intentional!
- The characters were a big draw and three were enough. Something happened to the schedule and they were not out after 3 pm. which was disappointing for some families. Llama was a very good costume used at the individual sites.
- Our volunteers were students from Maple Valley and they were great..
- Everyone was satisfied with having the flyer available electronically and not printed We had a good story in the Eaton Rapids community newspaper and in Vicky Dozier's column in the LSJ. Also had a wonderful picture in the LSJ the day after the event.
- Other suggestions for next year – have a puppet show for a performance, have Coalition members wear name tags with the logo so that families can identify them easily if there are questions. Comments and breakdown on area attendance are on the evaluation summary sent last month to all members.

#### **Individual agency site attendance**

CACS Head Start – 1663 (958 children, 705 adults, 426 non HS) at 15 locations

CADL – 402 at 11 locations

Clinton County Great Start – 171 (48 children, 33 parents) at 3 playgroups

Delta Township District Library – 78 (48 children, 33 adults); 175 at charter school

East Lansing Public Library – 100 (65 children, 35 adults) biggest event ever.

Eaton County Great Start – 580 (368 children, 212 families)



