

Early Childhood Literacy Coalition
Tuesday, September 17, 2013
East Lansing Public Library

MINUTES

Present: Mindy Schafer, DeWitt District Library; Becky Le Boeuf, Delta Township District Library; Mary Jo Gallagher, East Lansing Public Library; Thais Rousseau, Capital Area District Library; Wendy Moncada, Ingham Great Start; Jennifer Otto, RIF/Lansing Schools; Deb Hill, CACS Head Start; Karen Woodman, CACS Head Start; Ronda Rucker, Eaton Great Start; Karen Black, Clinton County Great Start

- 1) Welcome
 - (a) Introductions were made, including two new attendees—Wendy Moncada & Jennifer Otto
- 2) Review June 2013 Minutes
- 3) Parent Engagement/Involvement
 - (a) Discussion revolved around trying to get more parents involved in the coalition. There were several suggestions/ideas, including the possibility of teleconference and rotating meeting sites. Different barriers to involvement were discussed. All agreed that more parent feedback was needed before changes to meeting times/locations are changed.
- 4) 2014 Literacy event planning—March 16, 1:00-3:30 p.m.
 - a) Discuss character choices—We reviewed and discussed the results of the online survey regarding characters and performers. We agreed on the following choices for characters (pending availability).
 - i) Froggy (week one, sponsored by CADL)
 - ii) Llama Llama (week two, sponsored by Head Start)
 - iii) Library Mouse (both weeks, free, but arranged by DeWitt District Library)
 - iv) Pete the Cat (possibly two costumes or keeping one costume for the entire two weeks; sponsored by Delta Township District Library & East Lansing Public Library)
 - v) Back up choices are Curious George & Splat the Cat
 - b) Performer suggestions
 - i) There was a lot of discussion both on the performers and the number of performances. The idea of having one performance in the middle of the event was considered, as well as having 2-3 shorter performances (at 1:30, 2:15 and

3:00) throughout the event. The possibility of using area preschool teachers as performers was discussed. Jennifer Otto mentioned that several of her colleagues are storytellers and may be interested in participating in the event. It was decided that coalition members would contact possible performers and storytellers to see what their interest/availability would be. There was also discussion about involving the characters as participants in the performances. The thought was that seeing the characters participate may encourage children to do the same. It was also felt that bringing all of the characters together at the end for a final good-bye worked well last year and should be done again this year.

- ii) Final decisions on performers and schedule will be made at a future meeting.
- c) Funding/In-Kind
 - i) Costumes
 - (1) CADL—Froggy
 - (2) DTDL/ELPL—Pete the Cat
 - (3) Head Start—Llama Llama
 - ii) Books
 - (1) Members felt that we may be able to compile “leftovers” from various agencies to generate enough for the event. Ingham Great Start may be able to donate some funds toward book purchases.
 - (2) DeWitt District Library & East Lansing Public Library both have book bags that can be used.
 - iii) Hannah Center—WKAR will pay for the rental of the facility
 - iv) Performers/Storytellers/Etc.
 - (1) Clinton County Great Start will donate \$150
- 5) Agency Share
 - a) CACS Head Start—Deb did a fantastic job sharing information regarding CACS Head Start, including distributing a copy of a flyer geared toward recruiting/identifying possible families (see attached). She also educated the group on the distinction between Head Start and Great Start and how the two agencies work together to make sure all families get the services they need.
 - b) Develop schedule for other agencies to share
 - i) October 15—Jennifer Otto
 - ii) November 19—Becky LeBoeuf
- c) V. Adjournment at 10:40 a.m.

*Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15 at 8:45 a.m.
at the East Lansing Public Library.*