

Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
School Readiness Committee Meeting

March 10, 2022

Zoom Meeting

1:00 – 2:00 P.M.



Present: Mariann Gladstone, Cody Blair, Jessica Crupi, Christie Orban, Katie Wimmer, Allison Wirick, Anna Wiede, Wendy Bell, Cathy Brubaker, Karyn Head, Bridget Griffith, and Kelly Sheppard

Welcome

- Group completed introductions and shared what their favorite thing about Spring is.

Review Minutes

- Reviewed February minutes.

Social Media/Bright by Text Recruitment Effort Update

- Jackie Barber was the winner and her prize package was delivered.
- Facebook increased by 6 followers, Instagram by 23 followers and there were 5 new sign-ups for Bright by Text.

0-3 Brainstorm Session

- Services/Offerings: EHS, ISD, Early On, playgroups. Library story hour and events, ABC childcare 2 ½ weeks and up, YMCA programs, Hands On Museum in Albion, Mom to Mom group that is held at Lutheran Church, Family Fun Center at the Summit Oaks Mall, Splash pad, Nixon Park

- Gaps/Needs: Places to take small children, Affordable childcare, mental health services, transportation, childcare while grownups are getting services such as mental health evaluation or services, families who are not English speaking.
- Families have noted that they feel like they have less financial support than they had at the beginning of the pandemic.
- Things have been very inconsistent and some families can't pinpoint what they are stressed about...don't know what they don't know.

Jackson Reads Event

- May 7, 2022 at Ella Sharp Museum
- Collaborating with Ella Sharps "Museum Days"
- 200 bags for each age band: ages 0-2, ages 3,4,5, K-1, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th
- Each bag will have 10ish books, older ages may have fewer due to larger/hardcover books.
- Free author talks/readings
- Jackson District Library will be there with their Book Mobile.
- Posters and flyers will be coming out soon!

GSRP Update

- Filled almost all of the 21-22 slots. 16-20 were not filled. We did not have to give back money but next year we may have reduced slots but can ask for more slots.
- Almost 1500 Kindergarten Kits will be put together and handed out for incoming Kindergarten students. These include letters, numbers, dry erase board, social emotional book, scissors, and an activity sheet.
- ECS's would love to see sand and water tables to be put back to use in the classrooms. Children need these sensory experiences.
- It has been observed that children are acting out things they have seen on YouTube and other sites instead of using their own thoughts and ideas.
- Routines and schedules are still very much needed in the classroom.
- Children are displaying very big emotions.
- ECS's are getting ready and prepping classrooms for the final evaluation.

Member Sharing

Anna Weide – EHS is having the largest group of transitioning children in the Fall. They are in need of pregnant moms-age 3 children. They are always enrolling.

Allison Wirick – Staffing has been tough and CAA is in need of teachers.

Cody Blair – Looking for people who can do CDA observation's. He has 5 teachers in need. Allison Wirick is working on her certification. Katie Wimmer has her certification and is trying to figure out when she can do these. She will reach out to Cody when she has it figured out.

Next Meeting: April 14th 1:00-2:00 P.M. via Zoom

