

Present: Doreen Deary, Heather Dinneen, Elaine Hanscom, Cheryl Klockzo, Donna Labbe, Karla Woodworth

Call to order at 9:11am.

Discussed: Minutes accepted as submitted.

Regional Grant- Dates set for the Spanish language learner class- first Monday in April, 6-8pm, six weeks. Will be offered again if it goes well. Winsted will continue to serve as the fiscal agent for this grant.

GMF Discovery- Grant renewal application was submitted, awaiting final word, but as far as Donna knows, it will be approved. Torrington has been selected as a community that could help provide information via focus groups, TECC parents have applied and will be called in the next few weeks by Paige Bray from the University of Hartford. Graustein has hired a consultant to work on data, will collaborate with Discovery to get all of the data from the communities, including indicators, in one place online. Discussion about how data can be collected to look at how kids are succeeding based on the pre-school attended. The data would be used by the Education Workgroup, would make sure that the centers are on board with the project. Look at whether a child attended a program or not and how they are doing now-reading, CMT scores. It could help determine how the School Readiness Funds are spent.

Even Start—Cheryl reported that funding has been cut in the House of Representatives, being voted on in the Senate this weekend. Letters of support have gone out, there is a chance that the State might pick up the funding for the program. However, Sue Lubomski, Principal at Forbes, is looking at making a family literacy center, and will keep an ELL teacher on staff, with ½ time spent on ESL. Education Connection will set up a GED program, Sue will keep Paula G. full time working on all-family literacy, and she will work in the literacy center. Will still have home visits, etc.

School Family Community Partnership-- April 1- Middle School- teams will be meeting, Steve Gottlieb, Principal at Middle School, has stated that during conferences parents will be able to complete a survey. Teacher, parent, administrator, and community person (Donna) will be there (TEAM on April 1). Cheryl meeting with Chris and Sue and Donna on March 28 to discuss doing this at Forbes as well.

Committee Updates- Donna-- Parent Committee meeting next Friday, trying to recruit new people. Sustainability - working on resource guide, Results Scorecard, will look at other options or other tools. Child Growth & Development- will be planning community birthday parties. School Readiness- at the next Education Workgroup meeting, Shawn Marie will present updated survey, grant due at the end of May, it is done. Education-- Karla—Why is the Kindergarten Readiness Fair at the same school every year? Some of the other teachers wanted to be involved, but were not notified until the last minute. Next year we will go back to the old way of emailing out-- get the info out to the principals and have them talk it up. Busing- Big Y had a number of kids at the AM pick-up and TJ Maxx had them at the later pick-up, K Mart did not have anyone. Kindergarten Registration dates - Donna will email it out.

Budget- Review of the budget done.

Community Opportunities: School Readiness event at the Fellowship Hall at Future Foundations--Mary C-- April 8th-- music is all set, Mary will pay for the bus from her center, -- 10-11AM. RSVP from Pre-K's, then may open it up to Kindergarteners. Donna-- Free Conscious Discipline, PEP being offered.

Operations & Procedures Manual—Elaine presented an outline for review—discussed additional items to include, Michelle to email information about Education Connection, Elaine to flesh out each of the sections with the remaining work project hours.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02am.

Submitted by Elaine Hanscom, Secretary