

December 10, 2009
Macomb County Parent Coalition

Meeting Minutes:

Brief introductions made around the table

Melanie Hawkins is piloting our virtual meeting tonight and will see how it works out before we proceed with this option, when needed.

Meeting minutes discussed with the members. They will be emailed to parent coalition members prior to the meeting. A few copies will be here for new members to review and those without internet access. If possible, they can be brought up using in room projector. They will also be posted on the website.

GSC Updates and GSC Committee Updates done by Jennifer Crooks.

*At the last GSC meeting it was brief. We voted in the 2010 guidelines, worked on the details of the strategic plan in the committee meeting and reviewed at GSC meeting. The Strategic Plan was sent into the state and Karen stated that we received feedback with very minor details to be corrected and will have it to share next month. Jennifer noted how we share information through the groups in the collaborative. Share time and resources.

*Karen also stated that Great Start Macomb received an award from HSCB (Human Services Coordinating Body).

Parent Group Updates – Karen mentioned that we want parents to update the groups they belong to with the information they learn about at the parent coalition and report back information to and from the groups. This is the time when parents can relay that information. Help with the GSC (Great Start Collaborative) with the needs of Macomb County. Help the GSC break down the barriers and help make sure things get done in the county. We get to get that information here and spread the word on the Great Start Collaborative and Parent Coalition.

*Jennifer Crooks mentioned that a group of ladies she associates with is using charitable donations in lieu of gifts this holiday season. Stephanie Cole noted that her family does the same as well.

*Beverly Radlinski inquired about Café Fun funding. Karen stated that Great Parents funding has been restored. Café Fun, for example, will need to apply to the board for funds to be restored for program.

*Sheila Munro informed the group that Michigan is the 38th state to be 100% smoke free. In May of 2010 there will be no smoking in restaurants and bars.

*Lisa Carter-Bates stated that she invited 3 parents from her day care to attend tonight. She has set a personal goal to get more parents involved in the parent coalition. She's hoping to break through the barriers and get at least half of her parents to attend a meeting.

*Linda Flanz mentioned that she would like to see developmental info out in the community at places like daycare centers and YMCAs for example. Dr only spends 15

minutes with your child and the parents need to know what signs to look for as far as a developmental delay to relay that information back to their Doctor.

Parent Coalition Updates given by Jennifer Thompson –

*March meeting may need to be changed or the locations changed, as rooms are booked at MISD that night. As far as new meeting date for March, Jennifer Crooks would prefer not the 3rd Thursday in March. Rooms are full at the MISD so we are exploring ideas of when to reschedule the meeting or other possible locations for the meeting.

*We are seeking a secretary to take meeting minutes, if interested – let me know.

*ECIC Early Childhood Challenge is being held as a video conference here at the MISD on Tuesday Dec 15 from 10am-12pm. If interested, please let Karen know. It is free however childcare is not provided.

*We have created these pull tab flyers. What we are asking you all to do is take when you can commit to dropping off through out the county at places you go. Grocery store, day care, CVS, etc. Write down where you dropped off the flyer at and bring it to the next meeting. Lets get the word out so we can report back to the GSC what we are doing to get the information out in the community.

Community Presentations will be done by Jennifer Thompson at various groups throughout the county. Anyone who has a group they belong to that would like us to come and present please let me know. Also anyone who is interested in attending a presentation is more than welcome to attend with me. Just let me know.

Holiday Gift Game =D