

Kindergarten Action Team Agenda

All learners will be ready for kindergarten.

October 3rd, 2018

12:00 @ Aspires Office

Members present: Allie Gearhardt, Blair Steinberg, Gretchen Erickson, Jill Rollie, Pam Afinson, Kristi Beckman, Jason Baskin, Jayne Gibson, Sue Maus

2018-2019 Goals

1) Increase the number of preschool aged children enrolled in preschool

2) Identify community needs to ensure successful use of kindergarten readiness kits

Time	Task/Result	Completed	Some Progress	Not addressed	Notes
12:00	<p>Task: Check In</p> <p>EQ: What is your favorite memory from elementary school?</p> <p>Result: Ready to work together</p>	X			
12:10	<p>Task: Share EPC discussion regarding data collection</p> <p>Result: Confirm we have a reliable way to measure effectiveness of K Readiness Kits</p>		X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool staff have agreed to follow up with parents who received kits for feedback. • The kits can be displayed at conferences and feedback collected from those who used them. • Surveys have been sent to gather information from those who stated they were willing to participate • Will add a column on the early childhood screening check-in asking for name of preschool if they are already enrolled in preschool
12:20	<p>Task: Develop an action plan to address goal #1 including these talking points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the conversation from the Early Childhood Collaborative Meeting • Share openings • Discuss why these openings may exist • Should we have openings in town? 	X			<p>Current preschool enrollment according to APS data is about 76% of incoming kinders attend preschool. Need to recognize and celebrate this!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will do some follow up on preschool enrollment rate in other communities. <p>What is the root cause for the lack of preschool attendance? Discussion included the following possibilities:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See the latest preschool openings here: 			<p>Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with transportation companies to get information about transport barriers. <p>Scholarships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicize financial assistance available. • Lack of knowledge about the importance of SEL to school success <p>Lack of knowledge about openings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jayne will address this in her October Herald article. • Share information with families of school aged children who have preschool aged siblings – this could be done during conferences or other communications from the school <p>Language barriers to getting registered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be sure to share all preschool/SEL information with Success Coaches. • Work with Welcome Center, Success Coaches and Hormel to share the responsibility for language support <p>How can we promote our area preschools and advertise openings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shopper • Rachel’s Hope • WIC • MCPH • Austin Public Schools website • Austin Aspires website • Social media – Add link on Parent to Parent • Produce video tour of area preschools to show facility/explain curriculum • Host a preschool open house in Jan/Feb to
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				<p>acquaint parent's with different schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jayne will talk about preschool/SEL impact in her October Herald article • Sue has created a separate Preschool availability page on website to boost Google presence. Can post individual preschool info/videos when available. <p>A community needs survey will be administered city wide Oct 9th - Nov 16th. Information gathered will be used to drive strategic plans for PRC, UW, APS, Catholic Schools and Austin Aspires.</p>
12:55	<p>Task: Review meeting and tasks that need to be completed prior to next meeting</p> <p>Result: End meeting</p>			<p>Jayne will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with preschool directors to coordinate collection of data re: use of K readiness kit • Sue will update preschool availability chart and share with Heidi Hillson (to distribute to list) and Kristi Beckman (to share with success coaches) • Jayne will post link to openings on Parent to Parent FB page, Austin Aspires FB page • Jayne will email Heidi at Riverland Parent Center, Chris at Mower County Health and Human Services and Rachels Hope to be sure they know of the preschool availability resource • Jayne will contact Heather at Palmer

					Transportation to learn more
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Next Meeting

November 7th at Noon at the Austin Aspires Office