

Meeting Minutes – Educational Preparedness Working Group

Date: July 25, 2017
 Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.
 Location: Prior Lake Library

Work Group Members:

Roz Addler		Marie Johnson		Tamara Severtson	
Linda Anderson		Kim Latterner		Emily Skahen	
Kirt Briggs	X	Judy Mack	X	Kami Thompson	X
Lynne Burke		Julie Menden		Barb Weckman Brekke	
Kathy Busch	X	Todd Otis			

Staff Members:

Suzanne Arntson	X	Jake Grussing	X	Lisa Pollard	
Lisa Brodsky	X	Kathy Nielsen	X	Jennifer Schultz	X
Sarah Geffre	X	Kari Ouimette	X	Tawnya Ward	

Visitors: Steering Committee Members were encouraged to go to work group meetings to help try and form connections between groups. Bob Coughlin and Bob Crawford from Steering Committee are visiting tonight as well as Claire Robling, Legislative and Communications Coordinator for Scott County.

Scott County Update

The Read Mobile is on schedule for Mid-December delivery. A graphic design is currently being prepared for the exterior of the vehicle. The interior design of the vehicle has been finalized. There will be a white board, a 42” touch screen monitor, spaces for early literacy/storytime programs, space for parents/guardians and the vehicle staff to engage in conversations, training, etc. There will be tablets or laptops in the vehicle—details to be determined. Jake has requested a 0.5 FTE (20 hours per week) staff person for the vehicle, but is waiting to hear if it will be approved.

A group of Scott County staff from Childcare Licensing, Public Health and the Library have been working together to determine target population for outreach services, where the vehicle should go, what programs/services should be offered, etc. The goal is to coordinate programs across departments. As the project moves further along, Jake hopes to engage the 50 by 30 Ed Prep Group for assistance.

Steering Committee Update

The July Steering Committee meeting was cancelled.

The June Steering Committee directed the workgroups to move forward with Community Engagement. The goal is to reach out to families who are receiving food support.

As part of the Community Engagement piece, the Education Preparedness Group should develop questions that can be asked of the participants that get at the “why” vs the “what.” The Community Engagement effort would also like to look at what things are currently going well and how can we implement such practices throughout the county or build upon them instead of only looking at what needs to be fixed. The Steering Committee is also looking for volunteers from each workgroup to be on the Community Engagement subgroup that will start by preparing an RFP to hire an outside organization to conduct the Community Engagement for the 50 by 30 effort. Details regarding meeting times/dates/locations are still to be determined. Let Sarah know if you would like to volunteer to help on the Community Engagement subgroup.

As part of the next step on the Roadmap for the 50 by 30 project, we should be actively identifying all the different organizations in the area working on the same issues we are. As part of this revelation, 50 by 30 might be more action orientated toward better coordination and alignment between programs already in place. The Ed Prep group has started working on a list in the past; however, there are probably other programs or services that could be added to the list. Sarah will email the current list out, and Ed Prep members should identify other programs and services in the community to add to the list.

Dakota County Presentation

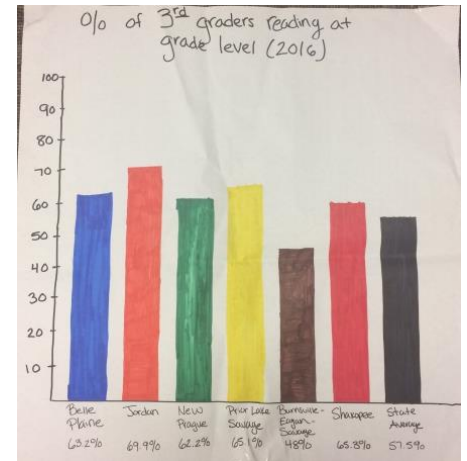
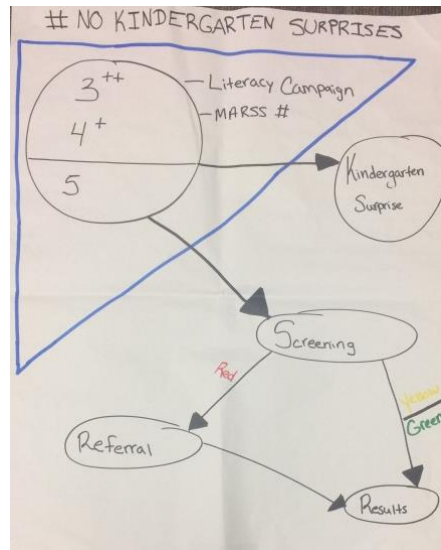
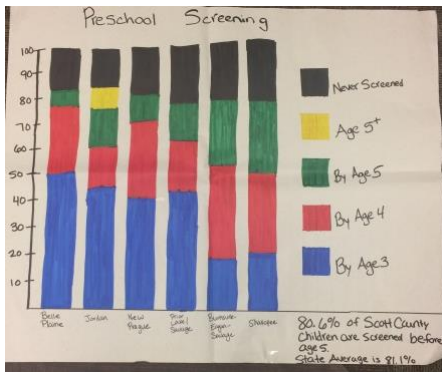
Claire Robling, Legislative and Communications Coordinator for Scott County, came to speak about the legislation that recently passed related to the Dakota County effort that was presented in May. Dakota County was awarded a \$200,000.00 grant that will allow Dakota County to develop and implement a pilot project with tracking software allowing coordinated services and delivery with the goal of increasing reading proficiency by third grade. The pilot program will run from July 1, 2017- June 30, 2021.

Data Modernization and Sharing Provisions was also passed allowing information to be shared more broadly to allow community services to provide more coordinated services. The Ed Prep group discussed what exactly was implied and could be shared, but it was unclear. Claire will reach out to legislature attorneys for their interpretation and Jennifer will reach out to Scott County attorneys for their interpretation. Both interpretations will be brought back to the group so it can be known what information the group might be able to obtain going forward and from whom.

Suzanne mentioned Minn-Link, a department at the University of Minnesota. Minn-Link is part of the center for advanced studies in child welfare and for a fee, they could help us obtain information if we have particularly important questions.

Call To Action

Kirt presented three charts at the meeting.



Kirt asked the group what do the kids who are never screened have in common. Are they low income? Are they ELL? Are they in child protection?

Currently the school districts have aligned incentives for preschool screening. The earlier a child is screened, the more money the school district receives for screening that child and the more prepared the school district is for that child when they enter kindergarten in a few years (reducing the number of kindergarten surprises). If the child does not pass the screening, the child is referred for services which allows more time to address any points of concern and increases the chances for better long term success. Although we do not have current direct correlation data to show the outcome of preschool screening vs reading at grade level in 3rd grade, the educated guess is that the two are linked. The incentives for earlier screening are a relatively new practice, so the data we have for preschool screening vs reading at grade level in 3rd grade doesn't yet correlate as not enough time has passed for the children who were screened under the incentivized approach to have "aged up" to third grade.

Bloomington School District took their list of kindergarten surprises and for three years in a row compared it to a list of families who were receiving county services. Almost 100% of the kindergarten surprises were receiving county services of some kind.

Members of the group pointed out that while screening is helpful, there are other reasons kids are not reading at grade level too. Kirt acknowledged this, but also acknowledged that while we can do anything we want, we can't do everything all at once—we have to pick an area to focus our energy to start. Screening can be the "big tool" to connect families and resources in the community—resources we already have and know help, but are not completely utilized.

There will be plenty of work and action surrounding preschool screening such as figuring out community engagement, consent for data sharing, engaging the faith based community, cultural sensitivity, MARSS numbers, literacy campaign, etc.

Misc.

Art Rolnick, <https://www.hhh.umn.edu/directory/art-rolnick>, will be coming to speak at the next SCALE Meeting on August 11th from 7:30-9:00 a.m. at Prior Lake City Hall. Kathy encourages anyone who has not heard Art speak before to attend.

Homework

1. Think of questions you would like to see included in the Community Engagement effort and bring them to the next meeting ready to discuss
2. If you would like to volunteer to be involved on the Community Engagement subgroup, let Sarah know
3. Sarah will email the current Ed Prep list of programs and services offered in the community. Ed Prep group members should identify other programs and services in the community to add to the list.
4. The Data Modernization Sharing Provisions legislation wasn't clear on what information was impact and who could now access it. Claire will reach out to legislature attorneys for their interpretation and Jennifer will reach out to Scott County attorneys for their interpretation. Both interpretations will be brought back to the group so it can be known what information the group might be able to obtain going forward and from whom.
5. If you have never heard Art Rolnick speak and have an interest in hearing him, attend the SCALE meeting on August 11th from 7:30-9:00 a.m. at Prior Lake City Hall.

Next Meeting Date: August 22, 2017 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Prior Lake Library.

Minutes taken by Sarah Geffre