



**Meeting Minutes – Educational Preparedness Working Group**

Date: April 26, 2017

Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Location: Prior Lake Library

**Work Group Members:**

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

**Staff Members:**

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

**General Housekeeping**

- Reminder that the 50 by 30 website ([www.livelearnearn.org](http://www.livelearnearn.org)) is live. The website hosts agendas, minutes, and other information for each of the groups related to the 50 by 30 project (Housing, Workforce Readiness, Educational Preparedness, Transportation and Steering Committee). This is a great resource for seeing what the other groups are doing.

**Scott County Update**

The Early Learning Bus (previously referred to as the mobile library) is moving forward. Library Director Jake Grussing is working with Scott County Fleet department staff to figure out specs, meet with vendors, etc. The vehicle will be utilized by several county departments to conduct community outreach. The purchasing process will be lengthy.

**Steering Committee Update**

The Steering Committee meeting focused heavily on the demographic group conversation. Due to Ed Prep’s meeting schedule, we are always one meeting behind everyone else so did not have that discussion yet as of the time of this meeting.

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## Demographic Group Conversation

As a follow-up to the retreat, groups have been discussing if the 50 by 30 effort should focus on one demographic group as a possible unifier among the pillars. If the effort were to solve the issues of one group what would that group be?

Although Ed Prep is focused on children ages 0-3, the children have family/guardians that the other pillars touch.

The project has spent the last year gathering data which help answers the question “what” but the data doesn’t specifically tell “why.” To be able to get at some of that information, we need to talk to the people who are being impacted by the issues. If the four pillars work together to focus efforts on a single demographic, a bigger impact can be had on the people we are trying to impact. Focusing on one demographic doesn’t mean we do not care about other demographics in Scott County, just that the project will focus on one demographic at a time.

After discussion, the group felt that focusing on families with young children living in poverty would be the demographic that would benefit the most to start.

Collective Impact processes need to engage the population that is being impacted. They need to be part of solutions. However, we also need to make it easy for them to give feedback.

Lisa B pointed out that the survey used for Comprehensive Planning also included questions that were relevant to 50 by 30. Lisa B will send information related to the survey (questions, answers, focus groups, etc.) to the Ed Prep group.

There are other community organizations we could possibly partner with who are conducting surveys around similar issues, however, it was also pointed out that surveys aren’t always a very accurate way of gathering data. Community conversations and one-on-one conversations are a better way to gather data with the help of translators and professionals if needed.

## Preparing for Dakota County Visit

Bonnie Brueshoff, Public Health Director of Dakota County, and Connie Garling-Squire, Director of Early Learning/Equity at South St. Paul Public Schools will be coming to the May Ed Prep meeting to present on the Birth to 8 Collective Initiative that Dakota County has undertaken.

Kami thought it might be good to review what we would like to know about their effort in order to let them know what we’re interested in hearing and to ensure that we maximize everyone’s time as efficiently as possible.

Some questions the group has:

- How did you gather data?
- What data gathered made the biggest impact?
- How did you bring people to the table?
- How did you engage the school districts?
- What did you do?
- How did you get everyone aligned together?
- What difference has it made?
- How did you implement the program?
- What barriers did you encounter? How did you overcome them?
- What measurable outcomes are you tracking/seeing?
- What would you have done differently?
- Can this work here? Can we do a pilot project?

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The group talked again about inviting superintendents to the meeting and decided that they would like to gain school district insight on the program, highlight the work the Ed Prep group is doing and welcome their engagement whether it is through data collaboration, attending meetings, etc.

### **Misc.**

Kami has been working on connecting with a contact for the Talking is Teaching Campaign that the mayor of Minneapolis implemented to see if they would be willing to talk about their effort as well. Kami will bring information back to the group to see if the group would like someone from the Talking is Teaching Campaign to come and talk/present to the group.

As a reminder, we also have the opportunity to have a conference call with Merita about where we are at, future direction, etc. Think about if that would be helpful for a future meeting.

### **Homework**

Lisa B will send information related to the 50 by 30 effort as part of the Comprehensive survey (questions, answers, focus groups, etc.) to Sarah to distribute to the Ed Prep group.

Lisa B will send information related to the Birth to 8 Collective Initiative at Dakota County to Sarah to distribute to the Ed Prep group.

Kari will send information related to 16-24 year olds in the Scott County community to Sarah to distribute to the Ed Prep group

**Next Meeting Date: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Prior Lake Library. Dakota County will be presenting.**

Minutes taken by Sarah Geffre