



**GREAT START COLLABORATIVE
EXECUTIVE MEETING
MAY 14, 2007
MINUTES**

Present: Ruth Miller, Rich Van Tol, Suzanne Greenberg, Holly Tiret, Mary Ellen Johnson, Linda Schneider, Julie Kozan

1. Check-in

2. May 24th Luncheon/Meeting planning

- The luncheon/meeting will be held at the Horizon's Conference Center, and start promptly at 11:30 a.m.
- S. Greenberg would start with a brief introduction, followed by introductions and lunch.
- At 12:30 p.m., R. Van Tol will do a 10 minute presentation where he will share the context. Within the context, he will discuss the Local Early Childhood System Assessment and Strategic Plan Template (copies of these documents will already be in the center of each table).
- The meeting will then be turned over to R. Miller and H. Tiret (12:40 – 1:10 p.m.). They will engage the attendees in a dialogue regarding how we continue the work.
- S. Greenberg will be in charge of asking attendees how they want to continue to be involved in the GSC (1:10 – 1:30 p.m.). Dates/times of four upcoming meetings will be available for attendees to sign up for. These four meetings will be centered on the information gathered from the focus groups and the Great Start System Blueprint. R. Van Tol will set up dates and secure locations for the four meetings. We will have them write their name and address on colored index cards. H. Tiret will take care of getting these. We should work with the focus group sponsors and have them get representation (2 people) for their school district.

3. Parent Coalition Changes

- On June 6, 2007 there is a meeting at the ECIC with the Parent Liaison and Great Start Coordinator. H. Tiret was asked to attend to talk about the future of the Parent Coalition.
- Star Power Rally (May 29, 2007) – Saginaw is sending a large number of parents to this event. R. Miller mentioned seeing if they could take the Spirit

- bus down to the event. Let Ruth Ruby know if you plan on attending and would like to ride on the bus.
- We need to continue working on getting other families to join the Parent Coalition.
- 4. General Website Update**
 - We signed a contract with Sam Livacoli.
 - E. Hatcher will keep us updated on the progress.
 - 5. Agenda Prep for May 21 GSC Meeting**
 - Executive Committee report (include a sample agenda of the May 24, 2007 luncheon during this report).
 - Program Presentation (M.E. Johnson).
 - Review of ground rules (S. Greenberg).
 - Reviewing agenda for the May 24, 2007 luncheon (H. Tired and R. Miller).
 - Website update (E. Hatcher).
 - Memorandum of Understanding (update/or signing) – (R. Van Tol).
 - Parent Coalition update (Lula Haynes).
 - Update on swift survey results (S. Greenberg).
 - 6. Memorandum of Understanding**
 - MOU is going to Superintendents next week. The Superintendents will sign – once it's signed by them, it will need to be signed by the community agencies.
 - R. Van Tol is going to see if he can bring it to the May 21st meeting for agency signatures.
 - 7. Future Meeting Schedule/New Members**
 - For now, we will continue to set Executive Committee meetings on a month by month basis.
 - New members from DHS and Public Health will not be asked to come to Executive Committee meetings until they have attended several GSC monthly meetings and have become better acquainted with the Collaborative.
 - 8. 2007 North Carolina Smart Start**
 - A strong message that was conveyed was that early childhood is a movement with momentum across the country. People are looking at it as part of the economic development plan for their communities and state.
 - More and more states are investing in systems work.
 - H. Tired came back with a couple of good ideas on getting and keeping parents involved. A Family Book Club was one of the ideas. It's up to the parent to gather the families. They have an art activity, discussion center, and reading center. These gatherings are held in a public place (school, childcare center, etc.).

9. Bill Millett

- Lenawee has been talking with Bill Millett with regard to bringing him in on June 28, 2007. Midland is also interested in having him speak in their community. June 26, 27, or 28th are the possible dates.
- Saginaw is interested on collaborating. R. Van Tol will keep everyone posted.

Next Meeting: at CAN Council