

MEETING MINUTES

Great Start Parent Coalition

February 18, 2009

Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch
& Conference Call



FEB 18 ATTENDANCE: G. Balcita, S. Balcita, D. Duffin, J. Embury, J. Lamphere

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ACTION ITEM	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
Identify 2009 legislative town hall meeting schedules	J. Lamphere	In Process
Select 5-7 organizations to contact and maintain IL supplies	All	Immediate
Organize IL fundraiser - pancake breakfast	A. Walker	In Process
Promote Parents Night Out with local groups	All	6-Mar-09
Contact JPS CSHEC Team and coordinate GSPC replacement	J. Lamphere	15-Mar-09
Identify IL/Reading Mth fundraising opportunity	All	Mar-09
See Volunteer Opportunities Below and schedule	All	Immediate

MEETING SUMMARY

REVIEW OF MINUTES

- The minutes from January were submitted for review and approval. No corrections were noted; minutes were approved.

COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MODEL

- **BEAN ELEMENTARY – C. Balderman**
 - No update available
- **JPS UPDATE – J. Embury**
 - J. Embury reported that she will be unable to attend the JPS meetings due to her work schedule. D. Duffin volunteered to become her replacement; J. Lamphere will coordinate transition.
- **PARAGON – R. Jones**
 - No update available
- **TOWNSEND ELEMENTARY – G. Balcita**
 - No update
- **JACKSON CHRISTIAN - A. Walker**
 - No update available

PARENT NIGHTS OUT – Friday, March 6, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

- GSPC were asked to promote Parents Night Out in their local circles. Parents were asked to identify newsletters they have access to (school, daycare, church, etc) and submit our event information for publication.
- Parents were asked to think of people who would be willing to donate a door prize for the event and notify J. Lamphere as soon as possible.

- J. Lamphere asked for a parent volunteer to appear with her on JTV in the following week to promote Parents Night Out. S. Balcita volunteered and will coordinate a time with her work schedule.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY & READING MONTH

- GSPC will be fundraising for Imagination Library in the month of March and tying our efforts into Reading Month within the community. J. Lamphere shared that Imagination Library has been a huge success in Jackson Co, but is in danger of running out of funding. After some discussion, GSPC parents committed to partner with our schools and/or daycare Reading Month to raise funds and secure Imagination Library for generations of Jackson children to come.
 - All parents are asked to contact the person in charge of coordinating reading month activities at their school/daycare and look for a creative opportunity to help that organization give back to the community during reading month.
 - As an example, J. Lamphere shared that she worked with Paragon to organize a read-a-thon where individuals and book buddy teams will be finding sponsors for each page they can read on Mon, Mar 23. Paragon will be accepting cash sponsorship for Imagination Library or gently used books that will be donated to the Centers for Family Health for their lobbies and pediatric patients.
 - Hunt Schools are holding a read-a-thon to support IL for the entire month!
 - Parents may consider holding some sort of after-school event, breakfast/dinner, penny drive, etc.
 - GSPC is committed to support parents in this effort; please contact J. Lamphere for assistance or supplies.

FEBRUARY ELECTION – 2009/10 Parent Representatives for the GS Collaborative

- The GSPC postponed its' election until further discussion regarding expectations of GSPC members and GSC parent representatives could be held.
 - GSC Parent Representatives will strengthen the GSPC role within the Collaborative.
 - GSPC Representatives will report on the activity of the Parent Coalition at all GSC bi-monthly meetings.
 - GSPC Representatives will report monthly to the Parent Coalition on Collaborative and Subcommittee activity.
 - GSPC members will identify and report on the community connections they represent at each monthly GSPC meeting
 - GSPC will become more intentional with its political voice
- This topic will be carried forward to the March meeting

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- GSPC is forming a Legislative Response Team and needs volunteers asap to review current e–publications and periodically draft written or verbal responses from the GSPC.
 - Please contact J. Lamphere if you are willing to help in this effort

- Select 5-7 area Imagination Library registration locations to contact every 4-6 weeks to see if they need additional materials.
 - Notify J. Lamphere to mail as needed.
- An additional volunteer is still needed to host a story hour at the Carnegie Branch Library on a Wed at 10:00 AM on a date of your choice. Please contact J. Lamphere asap if you are able to give about an hour of your time to help host this event.
- Parent Appreciation Event
 - G. Balcita, S. Balcita, D. Duffin, and A. Walker all volunteered to serve as greeters and hosts at the upcoming Parents Night Out on March 6.
 - Please let J. Lamphere know if you would be willing to assist in hosting
- New Jackson Transformation Gathering - a community event for all government and faith-based initiatives is being held on Saturday, May 30, from 12-7 PM at Dungy Stadium (Jackson High Football Field) and Great Start will have a booth to be staffed.
 - If you are willing to serve for even an hour, please contact J. Lamphere to volunteer.
 - Please consider helping us raise awareness within the Jackson about Great Start
- Family Expo – this event will be held on Friday, April 24, at Westwood Mall, from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. The GSPC will have a booth with games, prizes, and informational material.
 - If you are willing to serve for even an hour, please contact J. Lamphere to volunteer.

MONTHLY LEADERSHIP – *Successful Fundraising Tips*

- To help parents in their efforts to raise fun for Imagination Library in the month of March, a handout was provided on Successful Fundraising.

NEXT MEETINGS

- Mon, **Mar 16**, 6:00 PM (prior to story hour) JDL, Summit Branch (this evening meeting will replace conference call for the month of March)
- Wed, **Mar 25**, 11:00 AM, (immediately following story hour) JDL, Spring Arbor Branch
- Mon, **Apr 20**, 10:30 AM, (immediately following story hour) JDL, Parma Branch
- Mon, **Apr 20**, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, Conference Call (712.580.7700 press GS1# when prompted to access call)