

Meeting Minutes
Great Start Parent Coalition
April 11, 2008
9 AM – 11 AM
Lincoln School, Room 24

Attendance: S. Balcita, S. Butters, D. Duffin, J. Embury,
D. Gibson, R. Jones, Kim Stairs, A. Walker, L. Warner, L. Warren

Agenda & Meeting Minutes:

1. Welcome/Introductions

- Sheri Butters passed out Grant Writing Workshop information, along with a listing of available grants. This workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 7th, from 1 – 4 PM. If interested in attending this training, please contact Sheri.
- Lisa Warren passed out meeting materials, including a Love & Logic “Parenting Tip” about teaching your kids to handle life’s conflicts.

2. Upcoming Activities & Events

- April 25th: Legislative Breakfast at Ella Sharp Museum from 7:30 – 9 AM. All coalition members are invited to attend.
 - Volunteers: Kim, Melissa, Dalonda, Alice, Jessica, Sharmaine
- April 26th: Love and Logic Event (2 sessions) at Lincoln from 2 – 4 PM and 6 – 8 PM. Free childcare is available. Parent volunteers needed to hand out Parent Coalition information.
 - Volunteers (2-4 PM): Sharmaine, Alice, Dalonda
 - Volunteers (6-8 PM): Sharmaine, Lisa, Ann
- May 16th: Head Start Year End Picnic at Jackson’s Fair Events Center. Need parent volunteers to hand out Coalition information at event.
 - Volunteers: Robin, Dominica, Sharmaine, Kim
- May 21st: Star Power Rally in Lansing – More information to follow. Coalition members should plan to attend! You can register at www.ecic4kids.org
- June 13th & 14th: KidFest at Parkside from 10 AM – 3 PM. Parent volunteers are needed to hand out Parent Coalition information at this event.
 - Volunteers (13th): Dominica, Alice, Sharmaine, Kim
 - Volunteers (14th): Jessica

- July 10th & 11th: Spring Arbor University Fair. July 10th from 12 – 7 PM. July 11th from 10 AM – 5 PM
 - Volunteers (July 10th): Dominica, Dalonda
 - Volunteers (July 11th): Dominica, Sharmaine
- 3. Executive Committee Report Out
 - No reports outs this month – it was an “off” month for the committee.
- 4. MSHA Conference Presentation – Dominica Gibson
 - Ms. Gibson gave a detailed presentation regarding some of the highlights from the recent MSHA Conference that she attended.
 - Ms. Gibson talked about Parent Advocacy, the Collaborative Development Process, and Strategies for Challenged Children (preschool expulsion).
 - She displayed / handed-out a variety of materials from this conference to our members and encouraged all members to get involved in their child’s education and parental advocacy.
- 5. Executive Committee Retreat Presentation (DVD viewing)
 - The Coalition members viewed a portion of the recorded presentation by Bill Millett from February’s Executive Committee Retreat.
- 6. Open Discussion
 - The Coalition had a brief discussion regarding some of the key points in Mr. Millett’s presentation pertaining to the education of Jackson County’s children and future job prospects.

Next Meeting:

- ***The next Parent Coalition meeting will be scheduled by Sheri Butters and the new Parent Liaison. Date, time and location to follow.***