

MEETING MINUTES
Great Start Parent Coalition
Aug 18, 2009
 Cascade Falls Park



ATTENDANCE: A. Culverhouse, D. Duffin (1 child), A. Walker (1 child), J. Lamphere

ACTION ITEM	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
Call legislators on Wed, 8/19, and voice support for Early childhood	All	19-Aug-09
Compose a response to the media regarding early childhood	All	1-Sep-09
Identify families w/4 yr olds, provide info, help respond	All	Immediate
Schedule GSPC participation at local school open house	All	Immediate
Schedule GSPC participation at local Fall Festival	All	Immediate
<i>See Volunteer Opportunities Below and schedule</i>		

MEETING SUMMARY

REVIEW OF MINUTES

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

GSPC INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLAN UPDATES

- The following action plan updates were provided
 - S. Balcita - teen parents (*will identify a specific group of young people to work with*)
 - NO UPDATE AVAILABLE
 - G. Balcita - Townsend grandparents who care for their grandchildren, Townsend Elementary PTO
 - NO UPDATE AVAILABLE
 - C. Balderman – MOPS, Bean Elementary
 - NO UPDATE AVAILABLE
 - A. Culverhouse – Townsend Elementary PTO
 - Will check on open house date as well as fall festival to see if a booth can be secured for Great Start
 - S. Deny – Brooklyn Pre-school Moms
 - NO UPDATE AVAILABLE
 - D. Duffin – Hunt PTO, Faith Temple PTO
 - Would like to have a booth at the Hunt Open House on 9/2
 - Will follow up to make arrangements
 - J. Embury – Center for Women
 - NO UPDATE AVAILABLE
 - R. Jones – Paragon CSH/EC, Paragon PTO, Community Resource Guide, PTO/PTA Participation

- Letters are being mailed this week to all Jackson County Elementary principals and School Boards asking for a parent representative to be selected by Sep 30 to represent their school on the GSPC
 - Follow up phone calls will begin in mid-September
- J. Lamphere – Legislative Team
 - See State Budget Update and Advocacy Action Items
- A. Pfeifer – Fundraising Campaigns
 - No moment this past months regarding fundraising
- A. Walker – House to House, Jackson Christian, First Church of Christ
 - *House to House* – Per last month’s discussion, JTA will hold a Community Listening Session on September 15 from 2-4 PM in the Jackson Tower Building. Alice will work to bring House-to-House participants forward who are challenged by JTA’s limited service to the Center for Family Health
 - *Jackson Christian* – no new information noted
 - *First Church of Christ* – no new information noted

STATE BUDGET UPDATE

- The August 14 edition of Capitol Corner was distributed and reviewed
- The 2010 budget continues to be revised in the joint conference committee of both the House and Senate
- The Governor recently announced \$685 million in new revenues, but this falls far short of the \$2.8 billion projected shortfall

ADVOCACY ACTION ITEMS

- In an effort to keep early childhood in the forefront, GSPC and GSC members are being asked to attend a rally at the State Capitol on either 9/15 or 9/24.
 - J. Lamphere will notify the GSPC as soon as a specific date and time become available
 - If available to attend, please contact J. Lamphere or S. Butters
- A packet of sample media communications was distributed and all parents were asked to work with the group(s) they represent to submit at least one piece of media communication in the next couple of weeks
 - J. Lamphere and S. Butters are each available to help prepare and submit any type of communication
 - Personal stories are highly encouraged
 - GSPC members are asked to help parents of 2009/10 pre-school students speak out about the potential elimination of the Great Start Readiness Program (pre-school)
- All GSPC parents were asked to participate in a Legislator Call In on Wed, Aug 19
 - Phone numbers were provided
 - Parents were encouraged to share personal stories in support of early childhood or simply let each legislator know they wish for them to support/fund early childhood in 2010
- The new ‘fill-in-the-blank’ postcards were once again distributed to help parents quickly hand-write a personal note of concern to State officials. All GSPC members are asked to distribute these among the groups they represent.

- Contact J. Lamphere or S. Butters for supplies
- A brief discussion was held regarding the Leadership & Advocacy Training tentatively planned for October
 - All were in favor of identifying a local school to hold the training
 - Barb Flick, a State parent advocate, was suggested as a potential speaker for this event
 - J. Lamphere will follow up with A. Walker to coordinate

PARENT TRAINING – Parent Leadership

- A brief review and discussion was held regarding the ECIC Parent Resource Guide that was distributed in July

FALL/WINTER GSPC MEETINGS

- A tentative fall schedule was distributed
- Members felt Friday would be a better day of the week to meet
- J. Lamphere will change meeting schedule to the third Friday of each month and redistribute

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **AUGUST (PRE)SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**
 - All parents are asked to look for opportunities for GSPC to have a booth at local school or pre-school open house; we can hold Imagination Library registrations and/or GSPC sign-up
- GSPC members are asked to consider having a Great Start booth at their local **Fall Festival or other Community Event**
 - King Center and Townsend Elementary Festivals were identified for potential participation
- 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.

UPCOMING GSPC MEETINGS

- Fri, Sep 18, 9:30-11:00 AM, Meijer Branch Library (*Airport Road*)
- Fri, Oct 16, 10:00-11:30 AM, Summit Branch Library (*Vandercook*)
- Fri, Nov 20, 9:30-11:00 AM, Carnegie Branch Library (*Downtown*)
- Fri, Dec 18, 9:30-11:00 AM, Meijer Branch Library (*Airport Road*)