



Meeting Minutes
Great Start Parent Coalition
October 18, 2007
9 AM – 11 AM
Lincoln School, Room 24

Attendance: S. Butters, D. Duffin, K. Stairs, A. Walker, L. Warren

Agenda & Meeting Minutes:

1. Welcome/Introductions
 - Meeting began with introductions
 - Lisa Warren gave a brief introduction about herself and her experiences
 - Lisa distributed the 2007 – 2008 Parent Coalition Meeting Schedule
 - Sheri distributed the following information:
 - Meeting Agenda
 - Great Start Parent Coalition 2007 – 2008 Work Plan
 - ECIC Legislative Update for October 12, 2007
 - Great Start Handouts
 - MPSI's Upcoming Seminars at Wayne State University
2. Planning Session: 12 Month Work Plan
 - Sheri facilitated a working session to generate goals, measures, and activities for the 2007 – 2008 Great Start Parent Coalition Work Plan
 - Results from this brainstorming session are captured in the "Great Start Parent Coalition 2007 – 2008 Work Plan" document. Please refer to this document for further details.
3. Nominations and Election of Chairperson/Co-Chair
 - Nominations were tabled until our next meeting due to lack of attendance
 - Sheri suggested that we sent out a member listing to each of our members, asking for nominations for the Chair and Co-Chair positions. Nomination submissions could be mailed back anonymously.
4. Executive Committee Report— Alice Walker
 - Alice reported that the most recent Executive Committee Meeting focused on their Strategic Plan for the year. There was much discussion amongst the community representatives regarding the purposed strategic plans, how to best reach the people in the community and collect their feedback, and the relevance of some of these plans to their specific neighborhoods. The Community Report Cards were consolidated and reviewed by the Committee. The next committee meeting will focus on putting these strategic plans into motion.

5. Open Discussion / Additional Information

- Kim likes the Great Start Handouts and finds them useful. Sheri has many more available at the office.
- Dalonda expressed interest in attending MPSI's seminar on childhood obesity.
- Alice suggested that we identify other locations for our monthly meetings to help boost attendance and disassociate Great Start from Head Start. Apparently, these two program names are causing some confusion within the community.
- We may also consider meetings in other communities within Jackson County to promote our community outreach objectives.
- We currently have very little representation from the faith-based community.
- Why does it seem that Jackson County has a negative perception of Head Start?
- Each member received two Great Start "Starter Kit" bags to distribute to potential new parent volunteers who they will invite to our next meeting.

6. Next Meeting

- Scheduled for Friday, November 9th at 9 AM at Lincoln School, Rm. 24.
- ****UPDATE**:** We will be hosting a "Parent Appreciation" Breakfast for our Parent Coalition during our December meeting (12/14/07) – instead of our November meeting. We will use part of our November meeting time to plan this event for December.

Action Items:

#	Action Item / Task	Person Responsible	Due Date
1	Mail out member list for Chair & Co-Chair nominations to all Parent Coalition members	L. Warren	10/26/07
2	Update Parent Coalition Work Plan with proposed measures and strategies	L. Warren	10/26/07
3	Create a survey for Parent Coalition members inquiring about challenges and obstacles they encounter that keep them from attending meetings and/or getting more involved in outreach	L. Warren	10/26/07
4	Coordinate and plan "Parent Appreciation Breakfast" for December's meeting	L. Warren	11/02/07
5	Create new name badges for members, including Kim Stairs	S. Butters	11/09/07