

**Childhood Readiness and Success Team Notes
December 7, 2011**



Team Goal: In Carroll County, all children are ready for Kindergarten and achieve at or above grade level success by the end of third grade.

Attendance: Emily Benson, Patty Poulin, Lara Preece, Kristin Groves, Kate Moore, Deb Meader, Bob Gadomski, Carol DeLaurier, Howard Cunningham, Cyndi Paulin

Done:

- Crafted introduction for the Readiness Checklist
- Reviewed a couple of parent friendly formats for the checklist. Finalized suggested activities in the “Fun Things to Do with your Child” section.
- Began plans for broader community meeting in Conway (other towns to follow)

Next (January Agenda):

- Checklist Distribution
- Timeline and outreach steps
- Short-term & long-term (this year’s kids & longer term)

Discussion

Reaching kids that are coming in this fall –

- Patty & Mandy McDonald can offer the train the trainer session for their parents and share what they have learned from their experience with that approach with others.
- Patty already does a family night presentation at Head Start with questions and answers and visits at least some of the 8 preschools in the area.
- Using Checklist
 - Get it out through many sources: pediatricians (4 year check-up), Childfind, K-registration (April-May), libraries, PTO
 - Go Play North Conway could be a distribution source.
- Checklist is one tool, what else?
 - Should there be a Carroll County website? Kate Moore has crafted one for Berlin and is willing to help us get something going. See Kate’s site: <http://kindergartenready.weebly.com/index.html>
 - Activities & Resources

Community session in Conway (other locations to follow)

- CCU is planning on hosting a community session in Conway and would like to make the main focus about the Early Childhood work.
- What is best time & location?
- Advocate for early childhood learning.
- Can share information about full-day Kindergarten; CCU can’t take a political position.
- Ask community to help with question of how to best reach children/families, especially those who aren’t part of formal programs.
- Other key questions?

Checklist - under fun activities include:

- Suggestion for more positive screen/TV time: Choose screen and TV time wisely: PBSkids.org,

starfall.com and Sesame Street

- Reading quote: "Reading aloud to their children is the single most important thing a parent can do to prepare a child for future success."
- Talk positively about kindergarten and school. Your child picks up on your feelings about school.

K-teachers/early educators communication

- Possible shared learning session with Jeannine Fitzgerald. Childcare Resource & Referral is already looking at bringing her here. Look at possible ways to work together/leverage Jeannine's time here in the county.
- Childcare Resource and Referral could host or assist with a group session with the early childhood providers and teachers. Deb has contacts with home providers as well as childcare/pre-school sites.

Next Meetings: Wednesday, January 11 at SAU 9 Professional Development Center, 6:00-7:30 pm
Upcoming dates: February 8, March 14, April 11, May 9