

## Childhood Readiness and Success Team Notes – April 13, 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:** Howard Cunningham, Nancy Coville, Carol DeLaurier, Jenn Karnopp, Cyndi Paulin (Shawna Puglia and Jay McIntire reported time conflicts.)

**Next Meetings:** Monday, May 9. Meetings will be at Tri-County CAP 6:00-7:30 pm. June 16 (evening) – community wide meeting with all teams.

- Team focused on the Watch Me Grow screening day in Wakefield, the School Survey Summary Report, the Early Childhood Parade and a follow-up from the Kindergarten Readiness workshops.

### **School Survey Report**

- The Team reviewed the draft report with the information learned from the school surveys and made suggestions to improve content and format. (Note: We have surveys back from all but one school and a commitment from the final school to complete it!)
- Reformat to move lists of information to the back as attachments with brief summaries in the body. Jenn will work on categorizing the section about children's greatest needs.
- The draft report will be sent out to the schools for additions and corrections as well as any comments or observations. The goal is to produce a final report by May 31st and get copies out to the schools for their use.
- The team may produce two versions of the report (one for the schools and one to post online) if it makes sense to do that but is leaning toward a single version. The purpose is to share information back with the schools and communities to use in understanding the landscape of early childhood education, the links to public schools and looking at options of increasing the percentage of children coming to school "ready to learn" in addition to a couple other topics.

### **Watch Me Grow** – working on Wakefield Screening Day

- End of May will work for Children's Unlimited and our Wakefield partners to hold a Screening Day in Wakefield. (Wakefield partners - Mary James & Penny Ellis from the Congregational Church). Will confirm. Will then shoot for May 19 or 20 for the training.
- Penny has been talking about the screening day with others in the community, including an education meeting they hosted and has received a positive response. There are several Wakefield folks who would like to be trained in the tool and at least one person who is willing to make home visits for families who can't make the screening date.
- Carol will start on a list of resources for Wakefield families for referrals or suggested activities parents can attend with their children.

### **Kindergarten readiness train the trainer workshops**

- The workshops went great! The presenter was high energy, connected with people and provided concrete examples of activities that educators can teach to parents to support their children's early learning. Her approach is supportive of parents, demonstrated how to use games and activities to meet children where they are at developmentally and move them forward.
- 32 total attendance (24 from Carroll County) with a mix of pre-school, child care, head start, Kindergarten personnel as well as a couple of parents/grandparents. 11 people attended both sessions. The team is pleased to hear the interest from both Kindergarten teachers and early

childhood educators in doing more to help children in their community be “ready for Kindergarten”

### **Early Childhood Parade**

- Brief update. The parade is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>. We’ll get more information from Shawna and Amy (Bartlett Community Pre-school) after school vacation.
- Carol designed a drawing sheet for kids to draw a picture of their favorite place to read. (Thanks, Carol!)
- Nancy is willing to help “staff” the team’s table.
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### **3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading progress –**

Carol inputted the Grade 4 fall data into the excel file that captures the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading progress. An improving trend can be seen across all schools. Now need to add this fall’s data.

### **June 16<sup>th</sup> – Carroll County United Annual Meeting**

The team will use this meeting to report back on their progress over the past year and reach out to potential new members. We will spend time at the May meeting on updating our Action Plan with next steps and deciding on the key items to bring to the community.

### **Announcements:**

Bear Camp Valley School is expanding their Board of Directors. Their standing committees are building, educational and fundraising. If you are interested in participating, let Nancy Coville know. Nancy also invited people to join their Facebook page.