

Childhood Readiness & Success (Early childhood – Grade 3) Notes – January 14, 2010

- Want everyone to be ready for Kindergarten
- Want all students to be successful in reading, math, writing, social skills & critical thinking
- Change language from “Pre-K” to “early childhood”. Pre-K for some people means “before ‘real’ school” and has the connotation work with young children has less value.
- Need to agree on/define what “readiness” means
 - Does this team need to look for more members? Not yet. Group knows the people in the community that have the additional knowledge or input we may need and can go to those people and bring back that information.
 - Like the approach of focusing on outcomes. It allows for different paths to get there.
 - Currently don’t have mechanisms to assess kids early to know if they are on track.
 - Children’s success largely determined by experiences before they get to school
 - Factors that impact early success – Kindergarten attendance is not compulsory, kids may get a ½ day or full day or not attend at all due to transportation or conflicts with work schedules.
 - Helpful to know the data about where we are now

Role of Action Team

- Bring your individual views & knowledge to the table but the team is about your collective wisdom and serving the community – not one idea winning over another.
- The work will be about figuring out what we need to differently in the community to get us to our desired goal. Our current ways of doing things get us to our present state. What do we need to do differently to reach our goals?

Homework: Have a conversation with your networks and neighbors about what this team is thinking and bring back reactions/input

February Meeting – Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 6:00 pm

- Solidify goals
- Identify measures

March – what activities/strategies do we need in place?