

**Childhood Readiness and Success Team Notes (Early childhood – Grade 3)  
February 11, 2010**

**Homework**

Group agreed they had some work to do between meetings; really need to move the team goal to more clarity because there is so much at stake for Carroll County's children.

- Work on the wording of the goal statement by email over the next week remembering to build on the work of the January team meeting. Statement should be something that will have meaning to the community; something that community members can see themselves in and propel to action.
- Identify 3-4 *most important* measures. Measure of what will make the most impact and tell us if we have been successful. Measures will be finalized at the March meeting.

**ROUGH DRAFT Goal statement:**

***Community, business, parents and teachers recognize their role in early learning as it prepares every child for life success using community agreed upon benchmarks.***

At the January team meeting, the group's key statements were:

- Want everyone to be ready for Kindergarten
- Want all students to be successful in reading, math, writing, social skills & critical thinking

**Breakout 1**

- Carroll County understands/recognizes the early years as learning years so that our kids are curious, engaged and excited about learning.  
Discussion followed about what would the community mean by learning. Would they understand it as only meaning 'schooling'. Might need defining through the measures; team could identify an overarching goal for children up to grade 3 and choose measures that will describe what the desired outcomes are for children entering Kindergarten and children completing third grade.
- Nourishing each child at their developmental stage.  
Discussion: Parents as teachers  
Doesn't specifically address age group team is focused on.

**Breakout 2**

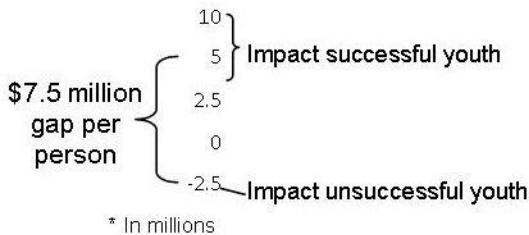
- All kids have a chance to succeed
- Our children are achieving developmental milestones as defined in agreed upon measures.  
Discussion: What does community bring to this? Where does the community fit in?

Other Discussion:

- Maslow's hierarchy of needs was discussed resulting in the statement that we would like Carroll County's children to have their 1) Physiological needs (air, food, drink, shelter, warmth, sleep,

etc.); 2. Safety needs - (protection from elements, security, order, law, limits, stability, etc.); and 3. Belongingness and Love needs - (family, affection, relationships, etc.) met in order for our children to continue to know, understand, and learn. (The Individual and Family Economic Security and Health and Wellness Teams are addressing many of these issues.)

- School success leads to “life” success but can’t wait until kids are 20 to measure. How will we know kids are being successful earlier on?
- Can identify kids who are at high risk of failure by the end of third grade and to a pretty high degree even in first grade. We also know states such as California and Texas are correlating their prison bed projections to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading rate.
- Why we need clear rigorous outcomes for our kids and clear measures:



As a nation we have spent 52 trillion dollars on our young people not being successful over the past 25 years. A young person that is successful is very unlikely to be involved in the prison system and will have a positive economic impact of 5-10 million dollars (earnings and their economic impact in the community - food, home, etc. ). Young people who are not successful are far more likely to be imprisoned. Those in prison cost about 2 ½

million dollars. The opportunity cost or gap is 7.5 million. 7.5 million x prison population over last 25 years = 52 trillion dollars.

### March Meeting – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 pm

- Finalize measures
- Outline the business plan for how to get there. What are the levers, measures and action items?