

# Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

## Parent Engagement Planning Work Group Meeting Minutes

<b>MEETING COMMENCED</b>	9:30am, Tuesday, July 18, 2017 Old Mill Center (Ramsay Room), Corvallis
<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Shirley Blake
<b>WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Shirley Blake, Rocio Munoz, Jennifer Ciccarelli, Kim Vanhorn, Adriana Villegas, Laura Lundeen, Nobabi Morales, Aoife Magee, Jerri Wolfe, Kristi May, Cindy Bond, Lynn Hall, LeAnne Trask, Jennifer Hartsock, Tina Dodge-Vera
<b>VERSION</b>	Final
<b>RECORDED?</b>	No

### Agenda topics

<b>DISCUSSION ITEM</b>	Parent Engagement Updates
Shirley updates the group about 12 Relief Nursery parents who appreciate the Old Mill Center, are eager to have access to free programs, and request more resources for their children in the k-12 system.	
She is looking for community partners who can help spread this information.	
These parents are most available to meet in the morning.	
A. USDA Free Summer Lunch – three counties	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- General questions handout: questions have been refined from last meeting. This standard question list will become tailored for each program (which will be conducted with parents via an iPad on survey monkey).</li> <li>- The group agrees to revise question 13: “If you could have more information about a topic, what would it be? (activities, school readiness, behavior/discipline, routines, nutrition, skip, other).”</li> </ul>	
B. Farmer’s Market Survey	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Power of Produce (POP) Club in Albany offers monetary tokens to kids 6-12 years old at the farmer’s market in order to engage in the local food system and with farmers and vendors.</li> <li>- The Hub partnered with OSU Extension in order to conduct a survey at the Albany farmer’s market.</li> </ul>	
C. Festival Latino	
The group discusses how to encourage a safe and inviting learning environment by effectively explaining the registration form in our classrooms. How do we best survey the students and their background/demographic without creating embarrassment or intimidation?	
D. Sweet Home Health Fair	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask for parent feedback on behalf of the Hub. This date might pose an issue because of the Eclipse festivities.</li> <li>- The group discusses community events for our partner groups to attend.</li> </ul>	

<b>DISCUSSION ITEM</b>	Absenteeism
Absenteeism became a serious discussion when the Hub decided to participate in communicating with parents about the importance of student participation. We ask how to offer skill building for parents. This includes the collection and analyzation of data. We ask how do we learn more about the whole issue around absenteeism?	

A. PowToon
i. "The Importance of School Attendance" by AbsencesAddUp.org demonstrating a gentle animated story about the concerns of missing school ( <a href="http://vimeo.com/101425388">http://vimeo.com/101425388</a> )
ii. "Brining Attendance Home: Parent Video" by Attendance Works with personal accounts, statistics, and recommendations about chronic absence ( <a href="http://absencesaddup.org/importance-of-school-attendance">http://absencesaddup.org/importance-of-school-attendance</a> ).
iii. Feedback
- Do parents view the message of the video the same way child advocators do? Do these videos encourage trust between the parent and educational professionals?
- We suggest showing the first video to parents and create a powtoon.
- The group appreciates Attendance Works.
- The group discusses creating a shorter powtoon to post on a public network. We can also rotate the videos in English and Spanish between resources (screens).
- This needs to include a populace that represents our communities.
- We can consider partnering with k-12 video production groups.
- Perhaps use Facebook for marketing and publicity of these videos.
- We need to target parents who believe prekindergarten isn't worthy of adequate attendance. Powtoons can educate parents about effective sleep, nutrition, and transitions.
- Rocio Munoz suggests forming peer conversations in family/child friendly environments, which encourages trust between parent and professional, excitement for learning, and ownership of recourses. Her group resembles the parenting classes at LBCC.
- Lincoln school districts have already begun work on absenteeism in Toledo by reconstructing the atmosphere to one of positivity for showing up to class instead of shame for being late to class. They also offer free breakfast and lunch.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Newport Focus Group – Absenteeism
Samaritan House Family Shelter, August 16th	
i. Present & approve questions	
- Please send finalized questions to Jennifer Ciccarelli	
- We are planning to share this information with Lauren through LIFT program.	
- These are discussion questions with the option to write answers on the question sheet. Consider renting voice recorders from LBCC.	
- Open-ended questions promote discussion instead of yes/no answers.	
- These questions should promote effective communication between teachers and parents about individual and group needs. This includes <u>communicating doctor schedules</u> and knowing the school's absent policy.	
- Consider asking parents if they can differentiate between illness and social challenges with symptoms like illness. What would that conversation look like? This is especially common with children with parent visitations.	
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Rocio Munoz's group meets on Fridays in the Garfield Elementary School cafeteria at 8:15am. funded by the Equity Alliance Funds (\$8,500 grant) of 15 parents. This is a parent-led group. Adrianna volunteers to advocate for Rocio's group; she also suggests referring at-risk families to Old Mill. They are working on the district level to update their wellness and nutrition policies.	
It's parent-led group is funded by the Equity Alliance Funds (\$8,500 grant) of 15 parents.	
Adrianna volunteers to advocate for Rocio's group; she also suggests referring at-risk families to Old Mill.	

Jerri explains the Juntos Program and their similarities and differences to Rocio's parent group. This is also similar to the LBCC co-op classrooms (Ex: Live and Learn Babies). We agree the many models offer several recourses.

<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	Tuesday, August 29, 2017
10:00am-12:00am TBA, Newport	
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	11:35am