

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Parent Engagement Work Group Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	10:00am, Tuesday, September 26, 2017 Luckiamute Building, Albany
MEETING CALLED BY	Shirley Blake
WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Shirley Blake, Laura Lundeen, Lynn Hall, Kristi May, LeAnne Brown, Jennifer Hartsock
VERSION	Final
RECORDED?	Yes

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Parent Engagement
a. Attendance (Absenteeism)	
i. DHS Partnership	
Maria Duryea, Research/ Office of Business Intelligence, and Xochitl Esparza, TANF Manager, contacted Shirley about a two-generation system change grant.	
Maria and Xochitl are interested in at-risk and underserved communities suspected to have chronic absenteeism. They reviewed school report cards and determined Lincoln County is as a good fit for their grant.	
They want to affect high school graduation rates by using the collective impact model and partnering with community leaders in Lincoln County.	
Lynn and Shirley are attending the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) community consultation on Friday.	
Laura Lundeen joins the meeting.	
Jeri asks if they intend to use our early childhood voice in their planning, to which Shirley confirms.	
Jeri hopes Benton and Linn representatives don't flood the meeting; she suggests Lynn and Shirley practice active listening instead of participation.	
LeAnne suggests contacting Terry Persson. She has connections to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.	
The group agrees we need to connect with Lincoln partners. We brainstorm appropriate points of contact and plan to reach out to them.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Attendance Questions - Summary
Shirley presents the Attendance (Absenteeism) Summary document, a quick summary of the highlights and common communication points.	
Jeri points out that we need data points on this document. Shirley will add this information later.	
Question: What would parents like from before-school programs?	

DISCUSSION ITEM	General Parenting Questions - Summary
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Shirley presents the Standard Questions Summary document.
Parents prefer activities for their children that are free and within their community.
Some parents believe parenting courses are similar to DHS treatment. Shirley believes improved marketing will help parents feel more comfortable with parenting courses.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Reporting Development
Shirley plans to scan parent response forms, categorize them by location, and create a report, but she is curious how to include qualitative information. She requests help.	
Jerri suggests creating a survey to collect qualitative data.	
Lynn suggests recording a parent quote or comment.	
Kristi believes this method will help us create focus groups. Then, if we want to look at themes throughout the region, we can determine if it's a Hub issue.	
Jerri suggests holding a focus group meeting to analyze the data, which each focus group can present to the Hub.	
Shirley believes we can utilize Facebook to communicate with our parents.	
Lynn explains that the focus group in Harrisburg wanted a local communication page.	
The Parent Engagement quality improvement plan encouraged a local Facebook group. Kristi sees that parent-led Facebook groups are successful.	
Shirley suggests creating a closed Facebook group.	
Jerri suggests Pollywog might be a more appropriate spearhead for this group than the Hub.	
Kristi suggests Shirley create a closed FB parent group for mothers living in Philomath that shares our agency information. Shirley agrees to begin this group.	
Laura Lundeen suggests asking K-12 to open their gyms for children 0-7 for recreational play and parent communication.	
Kristi explains that we would need volunteers who might prep for teachers within the gym. This can lead to creating PTAs and other community events that encourage parents to get more involved with their children's school. This also includes the Hub creating strong relationships with the principals and superintendents.	
As Kristi works on the KPI planning, she can ask for focus groups and share our data.	
Laura suggests a parent liaison for each grade level in the K-12 system.	
Jerri reminds the group that the K-12 principal and teachers aren't welcoming preschool visitors because it adds additional stress on the system. Kristi, however, has noticed a positive difference by making connections with the superintendent.	
Jerri suggests focusing on P-3 alignment for our next annual Hub conference. Shirley wants to include indoor gross-motor activities for teachers and parents for rainy days. Jerri suggests connecting to Movement Across Learning. She also suggests considering STEM Hub and how that might inspire our focus group.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Updates/Events
a. LBL EL Hub Annual Conference	
	Jerri, Lynn, and Jennifer describe the first annual Early Learning Hub conference. We agree to extend our publicity to parents by asking for a press release from Lori and getting flyers to OSU Beaver Beginnings and the OSU Human Development and Family Studies department.
b. PSN Upcoming Parenting Ed	
	Aoife's new intern, Ellie, plans to post department fliers in the community.
c. LBCC Upcoming Classes	
	Family Connections has 23 child/parent classes.

Jerri needs a baby instructor for Lincoln county. Aoife recommends Zina.
Family Fun Day is March 10. How would the Hub like to make an impact there?
Shirley suggests conducting parent surveys with incentives.
The 6th Annual Baby Blast! will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018, from 1-3:00pm at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital.
Parenting Education Celebration will be held April 18, 2018 from 11:45am-2:30pm in the LBCC Fireside Room. Lunch, networking and professional development. Free for practitioners in parenting education and related fields.
National Speaker event with Ross Thompson, President of Zero to Three will present on May 21, 2018 from 6:30-8:00pm in the LBCC Tripp Theater. Topic will focus on promoting healthy social emotional development for young children in the context of family and community. Free to public.

NEXT MEETING	October 24, 2014
10:00am, Old Mill Center, Corvallis	
MEETING ADJOURNED	11:33am