



FAMILY ACTION LEARNING TEAM

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 17, 2017

Meeting Participants: Jodi-Ann, Sean, Amber, Keayba, Melissa, Pamela

Ready/Ready Staff: Rachael Burrello

Facilitator: LaMonica Mitchell

Special Guest: Lindsay Whitley, Guilford Parent Academy

SYSTEMS CHANGE TARGET: Engage families as partners and change agents in the community	
A. Agenda Item: Guest Speaker – Lindsay Whitley, Guilford Parent Academy	
<u>Summary of Discussion</u>	<u>Action Items</u>
<p>Lindsay Whitley of Guilford Parent Academy (GPA) gave a presentation to families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A big part of students being successful is the involvement of their parents. When parents are involved, students do better in school and in life. • GPA can be thought of as an outreach arm of the school system. A one-stop shop to help parents out. • GPA also connects families to other resources in the community. Rather than “reinventing the wheel,” GPA works with community partners to provide help with resources that are already there. • GPA doesn’t replace family involvement, but rather supports and connects with it. • GPA advertises its services in many ways. Newer ways include texting services (which can be challenging because families have to opt-in) and radio ads. Families suggested that GPA use billboards to reach families who don’t have internet access or who have limited phone plans. 	<p>FAMILIES: Click here to learn more about Guilford Parent Academy</p> <p>FAMILIES: Share what you learn about Guilford Parent Academy with other families</p>
B. Agenda Item: Change Agents Role – Choosing Parent Education Segment	
<u>Summary of Discussion</u>	<u>Action Items</u>
<p>Families suggested a big push for recruitment for Family ALT. This recruitment push could focus on child care centers.</p> <p>Families agreed that they would like the next parent education segment to focus on discipline, and that they would like to have more of an active participation activity than a presentation.</p>	<p>RACHAEL: Secure a guest speaker to do a workshop on discipline</p>
C. Agenda Item: Partner Role – Update on Early Literacy Strategic Plan	
<u>Summary of Discussion</u>	<u>Action Items</u>
<p>The Early Literacy Design Team came back together June 28 to review the Strategic Plan and feedback, and to prioritize strategies for Year 1. The team decided that family voice and cultural competency are necessary in every part of the plan, and in every activity.</p> <p>The Guilford County Schools team (Superintendent, Chief Academic Officer, ED of Teaching & Learning, Principal from Oak Hill Elementary, School Board member) along with The Duke Endowment and Ready/Ready spent a week at</p>	<p>FAMILIES: Click here to read a blog post about the Early Literacy Strategic Plan</p>

<p>Harvard learning and working together to build a 0-8 early literacy problem of practice that the team and community will tackle over the course of the next year. The work will be included in the Superintendent's 2018-2022 strategic plan that is currently being developed, and is based on data and recommendations from the Early Literacy Strategic Plan that the Family ALT has contributed to since its beginning.</p> <p>The Say Yes Task Force meeting on July 13 also focused on the Early Literacy Strategic Plan. Task Force members worked on pinpointing short-term and long-term goals for the work. There will be a meeting on July 24 for Ready/Ready and Say Yes to collaborate and combine efforts in working the strategies.</p>	
<p>D. Agenda Item: Change Agents Role – Family ALT Videos</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary of Discussion</u></p> <p>Families viewed the videos from the April meeting and agreed that they will re-shoot them for higher video and audio quality.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Action Items</u></p> <p>FAMILIES: Meet together and re-shoot the videos ahead of the September meeting</p>
<p>E. Agenda Item: Change Agents Role – The Rest of the Year</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary of Discussion</u></p> <p>Families discussed what work they would like to take on for the rest of 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families want to be advocates for themselves and other families • Families want to make other families aware of the resources available in the community • Families want to spread the message that kindergarten readiness doesn't start with preschool, it starts from birth. • It can be hard to know what to do. Even if families know what to do, knowing how to do it can be a challenge. • First time parents face special challenges in knowing what to do and how to do it. • Families want to make other families aware of what they can do in everyday life to create learning experiences. • Videos are a great way to spread information because not everyone has the time to read through information, even when the information is there. <p>Families want more involved relationships with pediatricians and other service providers. To help providers better connect and build relationships with families, Family ALT will put together a guidance document or script that providers can use to ask questions beyond their normal scope of work at a visit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Action Items</u></p> <p>FAMILIES: Think about what you wish your providers would ask you at a visit, and bring ideas to the September meeting</p>

Meetings will be the 3rd Monday of each month at His Glory Child Development Center, 3223 Yanceyville St. Greensboro. Here's the schedule for 2017:

- **NO MEETING IN AUGUST**
- **Monday, September 18, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**
- **Monday, October 16, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**
- **Monday, November 20, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**
- **Monday, December 18, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**

EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEMS CHANGE PRIORITIES – GUILFORD COUNTY

1. Ensure all new parents are connected to critical early childhood information and community supports/services.
2. Connect more young children and their families to needed services by embedding coordinated developmental screening and referral processes into settings that provide services for families with young children.
3. Improve family access to needed programs through the creation of an effective referral and coordination network for young children and their families.
4. Leverage and expand early literacy resources/services to meet community need by determining and launching priority program and system changes.
5. Leverage and expand parenting resources/services to meet community need by determining and launching priority program and system changes.
6. Improve school readiness by addressing affordability and accessibility of high-quality child care in Guilford County.
7. Create seamless and easy transition experiences for children and their families by aligning Pre-K and kindergarten priorities, curriculum, and transition processes.
8. Ensure the local early childhood system is responsive to and respectful of family needs and voice.
9. Increase public demand for school readiness by implementing a public awareness campaign focused on building community buy-in about the importance of early learning and development (0-8).
10. Embed continuous improvement orientation within the local early childhood system.

OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Ways to stay involved in Guilford County once your children reach kindergarten:

- Guilford Parent Academy (through Guilford County Schools) -- visit http://www.gcsnc.com/pages/gcsnc/Departments/Guilford_Parent_Academy
- School-based opportunities through PTA and other school focused activities, or to volunteer through GCS.
- [The Say Yes Guilford Pre-K to Grade 5 Task Force](#) has three sub-groups that focus on different parts of the Pre-K to Grade 5 pathway. Talk with Amber, Mary or Rachael to get connected.
 - Kindergarten readiness
 - Reading at grade level by the end of Grade 3
 - High stakes proficiency in ELA and Math by the end of Grade 5
- Ready/Ready Design Teams, to work on designing parts of the system around each of the 10 Key Priorities. These teams will not have age limits, and family voice will be critical to their success.