

# Family Coalition Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2023

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.



1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Ice breaker – This or That – Winter/Holiday
3. Old business
  - Winterfest Recap and opportunity for parent feedback –
    - 86 families – 189 children – 125 adults
    - 40 minutes in line. Speaker at the last table was too loud. Cinnamon ornament not great for kiddos with sensitive skin. Michigan DHHS had great stuff really enjoyed her.
4. New business
  - GSC meeting and subcommittee meetings:
    - Great Start Collaborative – upcoming topic – RSVP’s and how do we get families to show up after they RSVP?
      - Text reminders best
      - Google form to send email back to confirm receipt of registration
      - Remind group for other general advertising of events and initiatives
      - Looking into test services
    - Literacy Subcommittee –
      - Talking is Teaching is still being discussed and intentionally embedded into GSC events/initiative. New Talking is Teaching Parent training will be offered in Feb.
      - Hillsdale County Kids Read initiative is looking to double in the number of agencies or business enrolled to receive ten free books twice a year.
    - Community Resource Subcommittee –
      - Continuing to convert the Resource Guide into new platform
    - Prenatal and Pediatric Health Subcommittee –
      - Welcome Baby marketing efforts to continue around the county. Parents commented on the flyers appearance and wording... Parents shared experience of sharing the flyer and then having to explain it to friends because it was not clear as to what it was and unfortunately this happened more than one time/friend.

- Community Baby Shower will be happening this year. Save the date for May 18 at Hillsdale High School
  - Child Care Subcommittee – Didn't meet this past month.
  - Preschool Leadership and Advocacy – Continues to do data dives and discuss preschool related topics. Briefly touched on the idea of 5 day a week preschool offerings that the State of Michigan is considering.
- Little Free Libraries (LFL) –
  - Hand out Lanyards and bookmark/signage
  - New locations updates –
    - Waldron – LFL ordered and received. Waiting for installation
    - Pittsford – Met with owner of DJ yesterday is promising. He will make a decision and let us know. I will reach back out to him if I haven't heard from him after break.
    - Camden – Looking at new possible locations – Camden Methodist Church, Hardware store, and perhaps the Post Office
    - Litchfield – LFL will be ordered and the Litchfield DPW will install
    - Michigan Works – LFL ordered and received. Waiting for installation
    - CASA – LFL ordered and received. Waiting on approval for installation on brick
  - New locations that have expressed interest:
    - King's Kupboard (Food Pantry)
    - Adventures of the A Team (Daycare)
    - An additional Waldron resident has also expressed interest
- Knowledge nuggets for the upcoming year
  - Review samples and choose topics for upcoming months – done for the month of Jan
- Winter activity list creation
  - Discussion on possible simple activities updates
    - Talking with the Hillsdale Library to add 2 additional dates to their Friday playgroups. Talking about doing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in January and February and having the GSC provided a gift card for a door prize. Still discussing the final details with the Hillsdale Library.
  - Review Winter time Idea sheet
    - Talked about the most recent version and will revamp with the additional ideas for the January meeting.

5. Upcoming events

- Pajama Party – Jan 23

6. A Little holiday fun!

After meeting books given to Little Free Library stewards – 21 books given out

**Next Parent Meeting – January 16, 2024**