

MINUTES

Minutes Marshfield - Early Childhood Advisory Council

Date: November 28, 2023

Location: Marshfield Early Education Center and Zoom

Time: 4:00 PM

Present: Amy Carter (Outreach Coordinator), Marie Miller (MPSD Kindergarten Teacher, retired), Courtney Coutts (EC MPSD), Susan West (BID Family Education), Wendy Gardner-Breindel (Ventress Library), Annie Violissi (MPSD 1st Grade Teacher), Dotti McDevitt (CACCI), Lokia Small (JRI), Pam Smith (MPSD Preschool Teacher), Sofia Verras (South Shore Healthy Families), Jill Leahy (Beansprout Family Child Care), Linda Connors (South Shore Early Education), Karen Lincoln (South Shore Early Education), Allyson Holland (Health Imperatives)

A motion was made to approve the minutes for 9/26/23. One correction was made: changing Annie Violissi's position from kindergarten teacher to first grade teacher.

Agencies discussed updates of their programs.

- All programs at Head Start are full. They have room for more but need more staff. Head Start is holding a parent coffee at 9:00 am on the last Tuesday of the month. They have had some guest speakers, including a dentist recently. Head Start has just hired a Portuguese interpreter.
- Programming at the library is on hiatus until January.
- Jill Leahy has child care spots open on Fridays for her home daycare.
- Mini Rams Playgroups will open registration for January/February programs on 12/21/23.

Wendy Gardner-Breindel from Ventress Library discussed the parent/caregiver information center at the library. The library has a new cabinet purchased by trustees, and it has been moved outside of the Children's Room so families can utilize it at all times. Wendy is seeking resources to place in information binders. The new set up will also include items families may need, such as diapers, toothbrushes, etc.

Kindergarten Transition Events will include a family event at the library in March, an information night for parents/caregivers to learn more about screening in April, and a celebratory event for families at Coast Guard Hill in May. The council will work to set specific locations, dates and times.

Dotti McDevitt discussed how kindergarten transition has been successful down the cape. They have used a standard transition form that parents sign off on, and then had kindergarten teachers visit children at their early childcare program.

Mossman Play Therapy will be holding a parent education workshop in January. Specific dates and information will be available soon.

Next meeting will be on January 30, 2024 at 4:00 pm. This hybrid meeting will take place at Marshfield Early Education Center (255 Furnace St.) and on Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned.