

## MINUTES

### Minutes Marshfield - Early Childhood Advisory Council

Date: January 30, 2024

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), Dotti McDevitt (CACCI), 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), Pam Habel (MPSD Kindergarten Teacher)

A motion was made to approve the minutes for 11/28/23. The minutes were approved.

Agencies discussed updates of their programs.

- Wendy Gardner-Breindel from Ventress Library updated us on the Information Center at the library, which is now full and being used by families.
- Sofia Verras reported that South Shore Healthy Families is currently looking to hire home visitors.
- Karen Lincoln and Linda Connors from South Shore Early Education reported that they are at capacity and are currently looking to hire more teachers.
- Allyson Holland discussed the upcoming free clothing event on February 7th from 1:00-3:00 at their Plymouth office.
- Jill Leahy currently has openings for children ages 2 or older at Beansprout University.
- Dotti McDevitt discussed that EEC is raising rates in February for child care vouchers.
- The Marshfield Integrated Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. They are introducing LEAP, a new learning enrichment program combined with the integrated preschool program starting this September.

Kindergarten registration opens on February 2, 2024.

Kindergarten Transition Events will include:

- Countdown to Kindergarten on 3/9/24 from 9:30-11:30 at the Ventress Library. This will be for incoming kindergarteners and their families to meet with some kindergarten teachers, explore materials and learn more about what to expect next year.
- Kindergarten Information Night on 4/10/24 from 6:00-7:00 pm at the Ventress Library. Annie, Marie and Pam will run this to share information about screenings, school schedules and the kindergarten curriculum.
- Kickoff to Kindergarten: The date is TBD. We are waiting to hear back from the Recreation Department to see if we can use Coast Guard Hill for this event. This event is for all incoming kindergarteners to celebrate the end of preschool.

Summer offerings for early childhood-age children were discussed.

Next meeting will be on March 5, 2024 at 4:00 pm. This hybrid meeting will take place at Marshfield Early Education Center (255 Furnace St.) and on Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:48 pm.