

Hillsdale County Great Start Collaborative

Meeting Minutes from 2/3/09

Attendees: Ginelle Skinner GS Coordinator, Sandra Corbin GS/Early On, Tashia Myers HCCCA, Jane Sanderson HCSSC, Andrea Bricker Healthy Beginnings, Laurie Brandes HSN, Jeanie Nichols MSW Extension, Laura Nye DHS, Lois Foster HCS, John Ciaravino Executive Director HCISD, Sharon Roberts HCISD Early On Coordinator, Brooke Rains Child Care Network, Stacy Vondra Hillsdale College Lab, George Yoder CAA, Rod Mesarosh Parent Representative, Tracy Peter CAA, Dan Trujillo Parent Representative, Cynthia Rowe CAA, Maxine Vanderberg CAA, Valorie Newton CHA, and Richard Ames HCS.

The meeting begun with welcomes, introduction of attendees, and special thanks to our new parent participants. Parents were informed of the opportunity to receive a \$25 gift card at the end of the meeting and to see Sandra at that time. Ginelle Skinner, Great Start Coordinator began the presentation with the Great Start 5 star activity. Each group was provided a section of the star to brainstorm ideas to address the needs of Hillsdale County children. Also groups were asked to provide additional information about the agencies/persons that should be invited to the GS group. Many great ideas were offered like the need to include agencies like the police, and other community service providers like Salvation Army and food pantry organizations. Gaps in services were basic need issues, employment, and linking families to services they need.

Ginelle provided the group with copies of the work plan and presented our mission. The mission was accepted by the group. Ginelle passed around a sign in sheet for Communication Committee and the Parent Liaison Hiring Committee. The Parent Liaison position will be posted until Feb. 9th. Ginelle explained the need for more parent representatives for both the GS Collaborative and Parent Coalition. Ginelle informed the group that a \$25 gift card is offered to parents who attends the collaborative meetings. The Parent Coalition meeting is voluntary only and gift cards will not be offered to those participants.

Ginelle requested a volunteer to chair the meetings in the future. Cindy Rowe reported an interest. As well, Maxine Vanderberg agreed to be back up- Vice Chair. Lauri Brandes asked for a motion to move for both. Sharon Roberts 2nd the motion, and the group was called to a vote. Congratulations to our new Chair Cindy Rowe and Vice Chair Maxine Vanderberg. We look forward to your leadership.

Ginelle reports that she will email participants the GS Operational Guidelines and By-laws soon. Other announcements from group

members include information about important upcoming opportunities to vote on promoting the future availability of 911 emergency services and the building and site fund to update the school buildings in our community. Please keep bringing our community issues to the table.

The meeting was adjourned with lunch provided to participants. The next meeting will be **March 3rd 2009 at 11:00 AM.** Meeting location is at the HCISD building 310 Bacon Rd. in the Conference room.