

City Strategic Planning Early Childhood Group
Minutes of Education Sub-committee

Date: May 5, 2010

Time: 2:15 PM

Committee members present: Missy Riley, Joan Cargnel, Sue George

Guest: Annie Busch

Action: Minutes were read and approved.

Discussion: Sue George discussed the outline of what she will be presenting as an outcome of work this past semester. She will have a review of the literature that will highlight pros and cons of preschool education, possible funding sources used by other programs, characteristics of high quality programs, and other items. The work will also include a "state of the county" in terms of the types of programs in which children have participated prior to kindergarten and a recommendation of next steps. This will include steps to consider in educating the community on the benefits of preschool education. Annie mentioned that the business community is getting on board and that an expert on benefits of preschool to the entire community will be presented. One of the areas we have not addressed is how to determine high quality programs in the community.

Missy Riley mentioned that Deanna Hallgren, a parent educator, is conducting a study with kindergarten teachers to determine readiness skills in children in their classes. Missy also mentioned that the cuts in PAT should be addressed as part of our recommendations for legislative attention. She presented beginning data that has been collected on how children are doing on MAP testing when compared to their involvement in PAT programs. A graduate student in administration has received permission to begin collecting information on children (comparing Hispanic and Caucasian children) in the Wonder Years Program.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 13, 2010 4:00 PM

OACAC Offices