

WECCP - Southern Regional Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2006

Southern Region participants

Diane Bloecker, Child Care Licensing
Martha Kniffin, Child Care Licensing
Angie Chandler, SWR&R
Sue Donahoe, CESA 2
Simone DeVore, UW-Whitewater
Meredith Green, Waisman Center
Elizabeth Olson, DCPC
Elaine Strom, DCPC

Kathleen Huber, Monona Grove Schools
Kari Stroede, Satellite
Linda Kudma, Learning Ladder Preschool
Judi Ramsett, DeForest Early Childhood
Laurie Genz-Prien, Beloit Early Childhood
Jude Teicher, CESA 2
Jean Nothnagel, State Birth to 3
Ann Ramming, Collaboration Coach

Regional Discussions

Review of the southern region strategic plan

- × Outcome 1B of the plan was reviewed and additional representation to the southern region group was discussed. Simone commented on the importance of having representatives from higher education involved in the regional group. Martha contributed that representation from High School consumer education teachers would be valuable. It was also discussed that we could use more family support program representation.
- × Regional participants prefer to have the minutes to meetings posted on the website rather than receiving them by email.
- × It was suggested to email the list serve information to all that were in attendance at the meeting today.

Homelessness and Poverty issues and training needs

- × The group would like to see the focus widened when it comes to homelessness discussions. Training and discussions should also include incarceration, legal, coordination, social service, support and mental health issues. Also strategies to deal with homeless children and families would be most helpful.
- × The video, "In our Voices" was recommended.
- × UW-Whitewater does a unit on homelessness and incarceration in their program for teachers.

Assessment principles review from November video conference.

- × It was agreed that assessment is important. It was discussed that there is a wide variety of assessment tools, strategies and options being used in the entire system of early childhood care and education.

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Updates on the new IDEA accountability system and the pilot process

- × It was discovered that often we assume that everyone in the group knows the terminology and current activities of a particular initiative. We had a lively discussion about making sure the entire group knows what the basics of the topic are before going into details.
- × For detailed information on IDEA and the accountability system please visit, <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/bulindex.html>

Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards training plan and training needs for the southern region

- × The training plan for the southern region was shared. Participants commented that it would be a good idea to include more information at WMELS trainings on Preschool Options, IDEA, collaboration and ECCS.

Ready Set Go Transition Regional Training plans

- × Once again we had a discussion on assuming that everyone is on the same page when it comes to initiatives in varying sectors of our field. Ready, Set, Go is the process that is being developed to assure a smoother transition for children with special needs between Birth to 3, Early Head Start and other agencies working with B-3 to programs that work with children over the age of 3 years, such as school district special education programs, Head Start programs, child care centers and family child care homes. The goal is to have transitions that support the child in their development and assure close communication between programs.

Early Childhood Collaboration Council Survey

- × Please remind any local collaboration groups to add their collaborative group information to the survey by going to www.collaboratingpartners.com and clicking on "Survey of Local Groups".

The role of the Community Collaboration Coach in the southern region

- × The collaboration coach positions have been funded for another year, although the coach time is approximately 59 days in the calendar year 2006
- × The coach role in the southern region includes working with Sue Donahoe from CESA 2 to coordinate WECCP regional meetings; coordinate and provide trainings on WMELS; and provide assistance to communities exploring collaborative options for 4 year old Kindergarten programming.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2006. It will be a videoconference at the Pyle Center in Madison.