

Mason County Early Learning Coalition Workgroup Meeting

Minutes for Tuesday July 12, 2016

Present: Kim Smith, Diane Crabtree, Lydia Buchheit, Jennifer Williamson-Forester, Holly Porter, Tom Worlund

- Update from Coalition Exec Board Meeting 7/11/16:
 - Discussed working on a job description and posting for an ELC of Mason County staff person. Suggested paying someone who is involved in early learning 8-12 hours per month to attend meetings, do administrative tasks such as organizational development, some mini grant writing and fund raising, outreach, coordinate early learning efforts, lead advocacy and marketing efforts, community calendar and website and social media updates.
 - Introductions done with new member, Tom Worlund-North Mason Special Services
 - Family Engagement Activity Plan
 - Parent to Parent is doing a Sensory Friendly Movie at Shelton Theater on Saturday, November 5th their families. It was suggested we piggyback our Family Engagement event following around noon-2 pm. We can have food and booths that focus on STEM activities.
 - Lydia will talk to some people to see if MCT can partner this event with them and offer us their facility for free or a reduced cost. We will also talk with Carrie Lemon at United Way regarding suggestions for other partner organizations.
 - Lots of ideas about the event, including inviting Block Fest and Hands on Children's Museum to participate. Each booth needs to not just share their information with attendees but have Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) activities for ages Birth-8 at the booth and take home instructions for families.
 - Need to have materials usable for all, so pictures and other languages so assist parents in utilizing materials with their children at home.
 - Discussed a "passport" or way to re-engage families for follow-up. Suggested we have 2-3 things the family can do with their children for more STEM activities, ie visit the library or share an activity done and either return a "passport postcard" to a community location or email their info back to the coalition to be entered into a grand prize.
 - Have video or power point presentation with STEM activity ideas for families at a booth
 - Make stomp rockets: <http://www.instructables.com/id/DIY-Stomp-Rockets>
 - Find an organization to donate tote bags, ie one of the health organizations?
 - Need to develop a budget so we can provide food etc, donations? Taylor Shellfish?
 - Advocacy Event Plan
 - After some discussion it was decided we would roll the two events together since that was what VEL originally planned for the grant and we will utilize the launch of our advocacy for Early Learning at the Family Engagement Activity thru promoting the event thru social media, website, flyers, school district etc.

- Summer Schedule

- Next Executive Meeting will be on Monday, August 1st from 9:00-10:00 am at Mudd Bay Coffee in Olympia.
- Next workgroup meeting on Thursday, August 18th 9:30-11:00 AM at MC Public Health to work further on the Family Engagement and Advocacy event planned for November 5th so we get a jumpstart of advertising and preparing for the event at the beginning of the school calendar year.
- Next coalition meeting: September 15th, 9:30-11:00 Mason County Public Health Meeting Room