

Sandwich Partnership for Families

Minutes of November 18th Meeting

Attendance: Terri Lipman- Joyful Noise Preschool, Jeanne Hamilton- Sandwich Schoolhouse Preschool, Chris Hallas- Discovery Center, Lauren Melillo- Sandwich Partnership for Families, Tammy Thompson- Dept. of Children and Families, Valerie Perierra Brown-WIC, Mary Almeida- Cape Cod Children's Museum, Terry Altimas- YMCA Camp Lorusso,

Meeting called to order at 7:05. Members introduced themselves and gave brief updates. Terry and Jeanne are both relicensing this year. Discussion of community directory as a necessary resource. Discussion of declining enrollment. Discussion of referring children with delays in speech or other concerns. Lauren clarified new Sandwich School's structure of Pupil Personnel Services. Referrals should be made to Marilyn Vrontas in the SPED office (508-888-0625, ext. 20) Tammy updated group on resources available through DCF for parents and providers, and offered to provide a training on identifying and reporting abuse and neglect.

Minutes were amended to read "...the restructuring of the DCF staff and offices has been more difficult for parents to self-refer."

Lauren updated membership on parent focus groups and requests for programming. She also reported on Pasta and Puppets, Council On Aging activity, Family Literacy Event with Sally Mavor.

Discussion of possible formats for preschool visits and open houses. Discussion of info fair and the participants to invite. Consensus reached on only inviting Sandwich programs to participate, due to space limitations.

Outline agreed upon as follows: Snowdate of Feb. 3rd was suggested and agreed to. Drop-in program for parents and guardians during 5:30-7:30 on Thurs., Jan. 27th, downstairs at the Sandwich Library. Tables set up around the perimeter with enrollment information, samples of children's work or curriculum, and whatever else a program may want to distribute. Family childcare programs may want to share a table or two. Lauren will have resource directories, info on choosing a program, and a sign-up for the Ready to Read assessment. Will have the story rug out in the corner of the room, and ask for volunteer readers to engage any children who do attend.

The Pre-K to K Learning Standards were discussed and providers agreed to meet with Kindergarten teachers to discuss the transition between preschool and Kindergarten.

As the hour grew late the Strengthening Families Action Plan was tabled.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25, following a unanimous vote!