



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Summary of Discussion

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017 3:45-5:00

PSE Field Studies Modular

In Attendance: Cheryl Fralick, Caroline Noga, Sue Bergen, Rhonda Ovelson, Nicole Crane, Catherine Disbery, Tami Ruhr, Michelle Dickie, David Widdis, Donna Kozak, Amanda Turner

Regrets: Rolli Cacchioni, Lee-Ann Tiede, Myrna Kalmakoff

for **LEARNING:**

1. Welcome and Introductions

- The Summary of Discussion from Oct. 24 was reviewed and accepted.
- The January 24 Agenda was reviewed and accepted.
- Welcome Amanda Turner.

for **DISCUSSION:** How might we re-imagine transition from home to school?

2. Spirals of Inquiry

Scanning: **Was the information collected last year helpful? Did it provide us with information to enhance transition for all families? Why or why not?**

- There was a lot of information shared.
 - Families with 3 and 4 year olds
 - Families with 4 and 5 year olds
- The **PARTNERS NEED FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION CHART** has been expanded to all partners in early Learning
 - Care takers' needs was changed to community partners' needs.
- What are the Community Partners' needs?
 - We are missing input from that group.
 - We need to reach out to **all** that are involved with our children.
- The committee broke out into two groups to complete the charts with the following questions with suggestions to affirm, refine or delete questions.
 - Questions to ask before Kindergarten.
 - Child (3-4 year olds)
 - Home
 - Community Partners
 - School
 - Questions to ask during and after Kindergarten.
 - Child (5-6 year olds)
 - Home
 - Community Partners
 - School
 - See attached working document.
- How will we collect the information from these questions?
 - The language needs to be made age appropriate and also for parents.
 - Whoever is asking the questions needs to individualize the questions for who they are asking.
 - Less questions should be asked to get more impact.

- How do we ask the questions?
- Who do we take the questions to?
- When do we ask the questions?
- Think about what is the goal of community partners?
 - Anytime community comes together, there is increased perspective.
 - The school district is sometime isolated.
 - Both have come a long way as there is an increased understanding between the 2 groups.
- **ALL ABOUT ME BOOK**
 - ECE's could help with a *child produced* ECE portfolio.
 - This would give the community partners the ability to help with the connections and the transitions.
 - There is a huge disconnect.
 - Wouldn't it be great for our school educators to work with ECE's?
 - This connection takes place for our children with exceptionalities.
 - Could this be done for our "typical" children?
 - All ECE's need respect
 - Education does not start at 5 nor does it begin at 8:30 and end at 2:30.
 - School age care needs to work with schools
 - There is more transition for a K child.
 - Home→Daycare→School→Daycare→Home
- Our mandate is to support seamless transition for everyone.

for INFORMATION:

3. NEWS to Share

- February 28 Regional Kindergarten Transition Forum
 - 8 K educator
 - 8 StrongStarts
 - 8 Community Members
 - Planning group
 - Monique Gray Smith will be speaking.
 - Caroline Noga has been asked to sit on the panel
 - There will be ministry representatives from Education and MCFD.
 - To share this knowledge forward to educators and our community, Amanda Turner suggested a local forum.
 - This invite should have been extended to the Aboriginal CATCH table.
 - Kelly L'Hirondell has been invited to attend.
 - Next time, it is recommended to have suggestions brought to the table.
 - Let the groups decide who does what.
 - It should be what is best for the community, not what is best for the organization.
 - The table is a good model to present to the Aboriginal Community.
 - Catherine is the person who facilitates and communicates to the group.

- Kelly and Nadine have been invited to attend from the provincial office.
 - Locally, it is best to go through the table
 - Everyone at the table will be welcomed to give feedback.
 - This forum is a community project.
 - If there is room, the Planning Group will find a way to take more people.
- Round the Room
 - Workshops on Intergenerational Trauma Feb. 8 8am – 1pm
 - <http://www.catchcoalition.ca/>
 - Lenore Skenazy
- Homework for March 7 Meeting
 - Please reflect on how we might engage our schools, families and community partners in these conversations this year.



REMINDERS:

Suggested Meeting dates: 2016-2017

Oct 25

Jan 24

Mar 7

May 16