

Alignment Jackson Pre-K Team Meeting
Tuesday, August 26, 2014
Enoch Building

Members Present: LaTasha Brown, Joecephus Martin, Aisha Nyandoro, Eileen Beasley, Deloris Suel, and Dr. Kathleen Grisby

Welcome and Introductions

Review of Principles

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes tabled by AJ Pre-K Team

Celebration-Anthony stated that the calendar is a huge hit. LaTasha Brown from the Pre-K team spoke at the Governing Board meeting about the calendar.

LaTasha: Some of the childcare forms have been submitted but we still need to make sure we are collecting the data.

Anthony: What do we need to do to get to the next phase?

Aisha stated that she did distribute the calendar throughout her affiliated after school programs.

LaTasha: There was a copyright issue with MPB's logo and the characters on the calendar so this would have to be recreated. We need to check with JPS to see if they are willing to do the graphics for the calendar. If the calendar continues everyone needs to know their assigned part. We should be specific about the roles and responsibilities of each committee member.

Three points for next steps

- calendar
- organizations
- data piece

Discussion

The surveys that are given to the childcare centers/organizations will guide the next calendar.

LaTasha and Anthony will work on the survey

Deloris-needs an overview of the AJ meetings

When we are talking about surveys what are the key issues? To increase child and family interaction around education. We talked about anytime/anywhere learning because working with children is more doable than we think.

Do we want to create some sort of consistent curriculum?

How do we ask the right question or ask the question the right way?

Is the survey going to the organizations or the parents? It is going to go to both to get feedback from teachers and then it will be distributed to the parents.

Is the calendar a valuable resource and does it enhance what they are already doing?

Does everyone have access to the materials?

The centers had the books but did the parents have the books?
We can include a link to the imaginary library on the next calendar.

Survey example questions

Do you engage in other activities to promote your children's learning development?
Some examples (imagination library, visits to the library, technology, etc..)
The data that is taken will be used to adjust future calendar going forward

Discussion

How many childcare centers know that the JPS early learning guidelines curriculum is available online?

Anthony: It sounds like there should be some sort of event to promote the calendar and public resources.

Joecephus: A lot of organizations do these events and it's the end. I like the fact that it's at the beginning and will be used to launch the calendar. We can coordinate with the centers and find out what happens at that particular school. Many childcare centers have transition day and the centers can organize which feeder pattern the students fall into and connect this with the student.

How can our data results be used to support professional development? We are bringing the providers together

Deloris: In the feeder patterns we work along with the public schools to make sure the children are ready for the transition. If JPS has trainings than childcare providers should be allowed to come to these events. I do have some concerns about the assessment and as childcare directors we need to know exactly what to expect.

How do we make sure that the childcare providers are receiving the professional development required?

Does JPS know where the majority of the kindergartens come from?

Anthony: Wouldn't it be interesting for JPS to know where the majority of the children come from and bring these childcare directors together and provide them with professional development?

Safe schools health students is the department that worked on providing JPS with that information but it is currently dissolved. Every child care program in the city limits was a part of this program.

Anthony: Let's plan a professional development event. People are struggling with professional development and we can use the calendar as a road map. We need a fully engaged committee to move forward with this process.

Do we want to continue with the calendar?

Eileen: Oct-Dec-calendar for continuity but the major focus must shift to the surveys

Next Meeting time September 9, 2014

Meeting adjourned 1:26pm