

Copper Country Great Start Collaborative  
June 3, 2010  
Meeting Minutes

Present were Cathy Benda, Cheryl Mills, Taryn Mack, Louisa Wills, Dennis Harbour, Lisa Temple, Emilie Krznarich & Heather Store.

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:14. Lisa Temple, ECIC TA Consultant was welcomed to the meeting.
2. After introductions were made, the minutes from the April 1st meeting were approved. Taryn Mack made the motion and it was supported by Cheryl Mills.
3. Emilie gave the Director's Report and the Committee Reports (see attached.)
4. Heather gave the Parent Liaison Report (see attached.)
5. Cathy gave a report on the Wilder Collaborative Factors Inventory. 20 surveys were returned and Cathy pointed out that the Collaborative, compared to last year's survey results, all categories but one went up. "Sufficient Funds, Staff, Materials, and Time," went from 3.6 to 3.4. The Executive Committee will look into lower ranking parameters and discuss how to address them. Results are attached.
6. Cathy reported that she will meet with Emilie individually to go over Emilie's Director's Evaluation completed by members of the collaborative.
7. Emilie reported on the Local Star Power Bridge Walk held May 19 from Hancock to Houghton. Letters outlining the importance of supporting Early Childhood Funding were available for parents to sign, which were sent to Governor Granholm, Representative Mike Lahti and Senator Mike Prusi. The letters also included statements of thanks for their past support. Kids decorated paper dolls which will be displayed at area businesses and then sent to Lansing. Emilie thanked the Waterfront Restaurant at the Ramada Inn for the use of their conference room for Star Power registration. Heather attended the Star Power event in Lansing and met with Mike Lahti and Mike Prusi and thanked them for their support of early childhood programs.
8. A survey of early childhood services and community resources has been distributed to the GSC's partnering agencies. Emilie reported that some surveys still need to be returned. Dennis spoke briefly about the state budget picture for October. He said there are some positive things happening, some good news.
9. The new interactive CCGreatStart web site calendar was discussed. It was noted that there could be greater use of that calendar by parenting groups to get the word out about their family friendly activities. Lisa suggested sending a brief

reminder periodically to groups until they get used to using it. Collaborative members were urged to remind parents and their colleagues about the calendar. Peggy M., the ISD Administrative Assistant was praised by Cathy, Emilie and Dennis for her management of the calendar and for all her work in support of the GSC. Members of the group shared their praise for her as well. It was reported that the month of May showed the highest usage of the web site to date with over 4,000 hits and over 300 visits.

10. Emilie reported about member surveys will go out to collaborative and parent coalition members later this month with a goal of measuring the successes of Great Start as a statewide entity. ECIC contracted with Michigan State to send out and compile those surveys. All members of each group are urged to complete those surveys. ECIC has a goal of an 80% return rate. Each Collaborative will receive results pertaining to its individual group and ECIC will receive results for all the collaboratives collectively.
11. A candidate's forum will be sponsored by Copper Country GSC partnering with the HSCB and the Children's Coalition among other groups in August or September—sometime after the primary election.
12. A presentation later this fall will be offered to the community. Karen Ray and Bill Millet were a couple of suggested providers for the presentation. Data from the Wilder Survey will be used to determine which type of presentation will benefit our collaborative the most.
13. Emilie reported that there was good engagement from the business community through our Star Power events and through survey distribution.
14. The next meeting will be held August 5<sup>th</sup> at Noon at the ISD.
15. The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.