



BOONE COUNTY
UPWARD MOBILITY

Early Grade Literacy Workgroup Minutes
April 10, 2024, 2:30PM – 4:00PM
Central Missouri Community Action (807 N. Providence Rd, Columbia, MO 65203)

Meeting Objective: Discuss additional opportunities to help families feel comfortable seeking support.

Results Statement: All children in Boone County learn to read and write and see themselves as readers and writers.

Attendees: Al Plummer (Facilitator/Minority Men’s Network), Adielle Ehret (FACE of Boone County), Phil Peters (Grade A Plus), Lara Wakefield (Smarter Steps), Sarah Howard (Daniel Boone Regional Library), Katie Bowes (Burrell Behavioral Health), Cindy Reese (Boone County Early Childhood Coalition), Catherine Miller (Boone County Early Childhood Coalition), Gina Jenkins (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Verna Laboy (BCCSD), Kerby Webb (BCCSD)

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Al Plummer opened the meeting with introductions. Introduced Kerby Webb to the group as the new Boone County Community Services Program Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Specialist who will be assisting and providing support for the Upward Mobility Program.
2. **Update Status of Outreach to Boone County School Districts**
 - a. Status update on contact with Boone County superintendents
Verna updated the group that emails went out this week requesting one on one meetings with Boone County District Superintendents and will schedule as they respond.
3. **Addressing action steps beyond special services within the Strategy: Increase social/emotional/behavioral supports for children.**
 - a. Help families feel comfortable seeking support (#4)
There was a discussion addressing the needs of the learner in accessing the school/class technology at home and school device policies when they are damaged or lost. The workgroup discussed the upcoming Columbia Public Schools board meeting and the agenda item related to contract renewals on Title I Schools Reading Recovery programs with other school districts. This led to further discussion about programs and methods of teaching reading programs used across Boone County School Districts.
 - b. Coordinated/increase screenings (#7)
The workgroup discussed different types of screenings being used and the varied terminology used. Suggestions for outreach efforts to increase screenings were discussed. Cindy Reese will assist in gathering information regarding the terms “screenings” and “assessments” and bring information back to the next workgroup meeting.
4. **Closing**
 - a. Comments and questions
A workgroup participant shared an update on their experience with providing support to a grandchild wanting to access learning resources electronically from home.
 - b. Partner updates
No partner updates were shared.

Next Workgroup Meeting: May 15, 2024, at 2:30PM at CMCA (807 N. Providence Rd) with an option to join virtually **Please note this is the third Wednesday of the month**



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