



**BOONE COUNTY**  
UPWARD MOBILITY

## Early Grade Literacy Workgroup Minutes

June 12, 2024

Central Missouri Community Action (807 N. Providence Rd, Columbia, MO 65203) and virtual

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**Meeting Objective:** Updates on past discussions and future workgroup efforts.

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

**Attendees:** Adielle Ehret (FACE of Boone County, Community Based Services), Sarah Owens (FACE of Boone County, School Based Services), Cindy Reese (Boone County Early Childhood Coalition), Catherine Miller (Boone County Early Childhood Coalition), Phil Peters (Grade A Plus), Daniel Crasnow (Central MO Community Action (CMCA)), Sarah Howard (Daniel Boone Regional Library), Kelsey Cunningham (Parent Link), Gina Jenkins (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Verna Laboy (BCCSD), Kerby Webb (BCCSD)

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Verna Laboy opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions in Al Plummer's, Facilitator's, absence. Catherine Miller shared their successful collaboration with Daniel Boone Regional Library.

2. **Updates from May Workgroup Meeting**

a. **FACE Communication of Checklist:** Sarah Owens, Director of FACE School Based Services, shared update on how often screenings are administered in the schools and how the screening checklist is used. Parents in Columbia Public School (CPS) have access to the screening results in their Parent Portals. CPS is the only school in Boone County that shares the results in this way, and Sarah provided some background and context related to how information is shared, noting all school districts decide how to use their data. Parents can follow up with a school counselor if they have questions or concerns. Interventions vary by school and look different in different buildings. Screenings are done usually about a month after school starts in the fall and again a month after winter break.

b. **DESE Screening Campaign**

Cindy Reese shared that Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) conducted a statewide screening campaign March to-May 4, 2024, on various platforms. They had over 5 million impressions. They had a similar campaign in 2023 and no active campaigns currently.

c. Verna shared that no Boone County Superintendents have scheduled visits with her to date. Outreach is ongoing.

3. **Workgroup accomplishments**

Verna asked the group to share their thoughts on what this workgroup has to celebrate. Catherine expressed finding there has been increased knowledge of group participants, finding this essential before approaching Boone County School Districts with questions regarding specific services. Phil



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agrees and adds that it would be easy to get derailed if we had not done the homework and understand how the programs work on the inside.

#### 4. Closing

##### a. Partner updates

Daniel Boone Regional Library has Summer Reading Programs for all ages.

Catherine shared that parents are looking for free summer activities for their families.

##### b. Comments and questions

Verna asked the group if they would like to skip the workgroup meeting in July. Discussion about the topic varied in interest. There was discussion from a participant who felt they have attended a few meetings with no real actionable items. The individual stepped into the workgroup during the research/preparation stage before entering the various Boone County school districts. Several others found this stage of the work valuable.

**Next Workgroup Meeting:** August 14, 2024, at 2:30PM at CMCA (807 N. Providence Rd) or via [Zoom](#)

**\*Following additional discussion the July 2024 workgroup meeting has been canceled.**



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