

Early Education Workgroup  
August 24, 2010

Members Present: Cindy White, LISD, Early On  
Megan Karpinski, Program Coordinator, Young Children's Services  
Jody Howard, LISD, Principal, Young Children's Services  
Pam Esterline, Adrian, Director of the Montessori Children's House  
Cynthia Opelt, Adrian, Retired Elementary Principal  
Pat Skaggs, Madison, Lenawee's Child Playgroup  
David Bull, Adrian, Director of Head Start  
Suzi West, Parent

Committee members discussed the two objectives for the meeting: creating a job description for the parent educator/playgroup leader and who would be invited to send staff members to the Parents as Teachers (PAT) training November 1-5. PAT is a home-based curriculum with lessons for the educator to do 1 on 1 with parent and child. There is a socialization component that needs to be met and could possibly be combined with existing playgroups as well as creating new playgroups at new sites. 20 people are eligible to be trained so a brainstorming session took place of all the agencies that should be notified of the training. These agencies would be contacted once a formal document is created that would explain the scope of the training and that it is a long-term commitment as implementation may not take place for up to a year. These agencies include: DHS, Local School Districts, Catherine Cobb, Care Pregnancy Center, St. Joe's Montessori House, Adrian Community Preschool, Christian Family Center, Family Counseling/Children's Services, Churches such as Blissfield Element and Ogden Church, Health Dept., Libraries. Megan and Jody will present to the General Services Subcommittee of the superintendents. It was also discussed that some of these agencies may not necessarily provide staff for training, but rather a location for potential playgroups. Workgroup members would be able to contact some of these agencies through their networks and inform them of this valuable opportunity.

Finally, it was decided that once Margaret creates the document to be sent to various agencies, a list would be compiled of who from the work group will contact which agencies. Then responses can be gathered of who is interested in the training. With that information a model can be developed of how we can best utilize playgroup leaders and parent educators with existing and new funds. Once that is complete, then a more formal job description can be developed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Suzi West