
MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF THE KENORA DISTRICT BEST START NETWORK

held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010
at the Kenora District Services Board
Administration Office in Dryden, Ontario
Commencing at **10:00 a.m.**

Present:	Lynn Carlson	Kenora District Child Care Operators, City of Dryden, Children's Programs
	Deanna Pacheco	Keewatin Patricia District School Board
	Leanne Mineault	Lake of the Woods Child Development Centre
	Helen Clark	Kenora District Services Board, Ontario Works
	Arlene Williams	CAP-C Wabigoon
	Shelley Durance	Northwest Catholic District School Board
	Bob Onysko	Kenora Patricia Child and Family Services (Excused self at 1:15)
	Deb Cousineau	North Words, Infant Hearing Program, Blind Low Vision Program, Northwestern Health Unit (Excused self at 12:00)
	Kim Gardiman	Healthy Babies, Healthy Children, Northwestern Health Unit (excused self at 12:00)
	Clarise Henrickson	Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start, Child and Family Health Network
	Sarah Stevenson	Kenora District Services Board, Children's Programs
	Nicki Zilkalns	Kenora District Services Board, Recording Secretary
Teleconference:	Heather Exley	Ministry of Education (Signed off at 11:25)
	Sandra Russell	Ministry of Children and Youth Services (Signed off at 10:45)
	Carol Sanna	Municipality of Red Lake, Children's Programs
Guests:	Bill Reynolds	Lake of the Woods Child Development Centre
	Chris Maltais	Lake of the Woods Child Development Centre
Regrets:	Josee Little	French Language Network
	Caryl Hron	Keewatin Patricia District School Board
	Al Cesuinas	Northwest Catholic District School Board
	Kelly Williams	Kenora Association for Community Living Kenora Family Connection Coalition
	Janet Paterson	Patricia Centre for Children and Youth
	Barb Avanthey	New Generation Coalition
Absent:	Murray Delorme	Kenora Catholic District School Board

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by the co-chair, Lynn Carlson at 10:00 am.

2. Welcome/Introductions

- Lynn welcomed everyone and those members that were present and on via teleconference introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Agenda

3.1. Motion No. KDSBN2010-6

Moved by: Helen Clark

Seconded by: Deanna Pacheco

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the Best Start Network meeting scheduled for 10:00 am on Wednesday, May 19th, 2010 be approved and amended:

6.3 became 6.1

6.6 became 6.3

6.5 became 6.4

6.1 became 6.5

6.4 became 6.6

Amendments were made in order to allow time for Heather Exley & Sandra Russell to provide reports prior to having to sign off to attend to prior commitments.

CALLED: CARRIED

ACTION: FILE

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

4.1. Motion No. KDSBN2010-7

Moved by: Leanne Mineault

Seconded by: Arlene Williams

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the April 17th, 2010 meeting be approved as presented.

CALLED: CARRIED

ACTION: Post to the Kenora District Best Start Network Website

5. Business

5.1. Kenora District Best Start Network Website

Deferred to the communication update

6. Business

6.1 Update from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services – Sandra Russell

- Provincial reviews have been completed in conjunction with the providers Infant Development Programs & Early Literacy Specialists.
- The purpose of the reviews was to help MCYS understand what these programs look like on a province wide level.
- It is not about changing policy or linked to additional funding, but to allow MCYS to gain a better understanding & clarity of the programs.
- These reports will be provided to Infant Development Programs once the translations into French have been completed.
- Sandra will be pulling together providers to develop and present a power point presentation to the Network this will also be done for the Early Literacy Specialists.
- The Best Start Network continues to be the venue for all discussions for early years programs

- Dr. Charles Pascal will be working for MCYS to help develop Best Start Child & Family Centres throughout the province.
- Sandra felt that the Northern Region is well positioned to move forward in this area, with our already established Best Start Hubs.
- The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Children & Youth Services are working closely together to move the early year's initiatives forward.

6.2. Update on the Early Learning Program

6.2.1 Ministry Update – Heather Exley

- Heather reported that she had the opportunity to meet with many people from school boards and services boards during her visit to Kenora on May 18th, 2010
- Year 2 sites for ELP have been submitted to MEDU by the Board's of Education. Confirmation of those schools that will have an ELP program in 2011 will be announced towards the end of May.
- There will be training held in May & June for those involved in the ELP for September. There will training held July 6th, 7th & 8th in Thunder Bay for teachers and ECEs of the ELP. Heather will provide further updates as they become available.
- Jim Grieves has formed several advisory committees that are trying to look at all areas of the ELP and is engaging all partners to address the issues & collaborate.
- Bill 242 which was passed by the legislature on April 27th, 2010 brings areas of child care under the umbrella of the Ministry of Education. This will allow for a more seamless transition for children and reinforces a more integrated system.
- The transfer of Child Care licensing of will be looked at in the future.
- Heather provided an overview of the EL6 memo from Jim Grieves.
 - Requires boards to provide full day learning.
 - Allows boards to enter into agreements with outside agencies to provide extended care for 6-12 year olds.
 - Allows for a seamless transition for children and families.
 - Regulations should be out in the next few weeks.
 - DSAB's will continue to administer the fee subsidy.
 - DSAB's will be responsible to manage waitlists for fee subsidy.
 - Stabilization funding for those child care centres affected will be provided as well as funding to retrofit sites to provide care to younger children.
 - Fee Subsidy for 4 & 5 year olds will move with the child.
 - A full copy of the memo can be found at www.kenoradistrictbeststart.ca on the members only page.
- Lynn asked if there will eventually be one funding stream for fee subsidy. There for planning could be based on community needs, not age of children.
- Sandra was unsure if this would happen.
- Sandra stated that currently MCYS is in control of the Child Care contracts, but this will move to the Ministry of Education in the fall.
- Best Start Planning and Family Resource Program dollars will stay with MCYS.
- Sandra spoke to the vision of Dr. Charles Pascal and how close we are to what his vision is.
- Currently in the region there are 53 hubs, with 31 of these being in a school setting.
- Dr. Pascal will be in Sudbury on May 20, 2010 and will be visiting the hubs. Sandra will provide further information after the visit.
- Leanne asked about funding implications as a result of the transfer of Child care funding to the Ministry of Education.
- Ultimately the funds will still flow through the DSAB's the funds will just come from a different ministry.
- Heather spoke about the importance of the ELP Implementation Sub-committee and how the district is on the right path with its development of the ELP Transition Sub-committee.

- MEDU would like to see all those who are involved in the decision making of ELP to participate on the ELP Implementation Sub-committee.
- There needs to be a formalization of the committee (ie. Terms of reference) and a better definition of what the committee is about. The goal of the ELP Implementation Sub-committee is to ensure ongoing collaboration between everyone involved. Heather has drafted a TOR for this subcommittee. (Attachment 1)

6.2.2 Keewatin Patricia District School Board Update – Deanna Pacheco

- Currently there are 17 students registered at Evergreen with 6 on the waiting list. There is currently 1 child enrolled for the before school program and 6 for the afterschool program.
- Pinewood has 19 students registered with 7 on the waiting list. There are currently 5 children enrolled for before school and 16 for the after school program.
- Lynn spoke to the need to be innovative in order to make the before school program viable.

6.2.3 Kenora Catholic District School Board Update

- None at this time.

6.2.4 Northwest Catholic District School Board Update – Shelley Durance

- Enrolment at the Atikokan ELP site is good, but before and after school care is an issue due to the fact that the location of the child care centre.
- #'s for the full day JK/SK at St. Joseph's are good. There will be EA's in the classrooms, not ECE's as St. Joseph's is not currently being funded for the ELP.
- It was asked whether or not they will be using the new curriculum? Shelly was not sure.

6.3 Network Structure

(Attachment 3)

- The structure is modeled after the Sudbury Network structure with items that were included and omitted to customize it for the Kenora District.
- The importance of the having the "Executive" or "make it so" committee included in the network structure and who it would include was discussed. Having the highest level of funders on this executive and a quarterly meeting via teleconference seemed to be the best option.
- This executive should be made aware of the network's work plan & support it in order for the plan to move forward. They would need to be made aware of the networks priorities & asked to actively support the vision of the network.
- As many of those who would be members of the "executive" span both the Rainy River and Kenora Districts it was thought that perhaps we could combine the Executive Committee with the Rainy River District Best Start Network.
- The importance of having the "right" players at the network table was discussed and how best to engage these partners. Letters will be sent to those organizations not currently engaged to invite them to participate at the Network.
- It was agreed that the Network should make every effort to invite aboriginal service providers to participate at all levels of the Kenora District Best Start Network Structure, as opposed to an advisory.
- Discussion took place about expanding the representation of our Aboriginal partners including Executive Directors for the Aboriginal Organizations should be invited to the Executive committee.
- Strategies to pull in parents were discussed and that perhaps representatives from the Regional Parent Councils of School Boards could be advisories of the Network.
- Bill Reynolds asked that the Network consider having a Community Research Network that would be a partnership with schools boards, NWHU services boards & DAC's that could provide region specific data to the Network. A consortium at the local level that would be able to bring all data together.
- Sarah felt that the DAC's are a valuable resource to the Network and could provide evidence based data to help the Network plan.

- Discussion took place as to where a Community Research Network would fit into the structure whether it would be an Advisory or a Project. During the initial establishing stage it was agreed that it would be a project and there was the opportunity that it could evolve.

Action: Sarah will obtain the Terms of Reference from the Sudbury Network as to what the specific role of the Community Research Network is.

6.4 Terms of Reference

- The Kenora District Best Start Network's Terms of Reference was reviewed and amended as per attachment 4.
- Clarity needs to be obtained from the Ministry of Education & Ministry of Children and Youth Services as to their roles & responsibilities within the Network.
- Deb & Kim expressed no concerns upon review their portion of the Terms of Reference.
- The Coalitions need to have a clear understanding as to what their role is & have the necessary information from the Terms of Reference.
- The Structure chart will be included in the Terms of Reference.
- A copy of the draft Terms of Reference can be found www.kenoradistrictbeststart.ca in the members only page.

Action: Sarah will contact the Ministries involved and gain clarification as to whether there should be changes to their roles & responsibilities within the Network in light of recent changes.

Action: Sarah will post the Implementation Guidelines on the Kenora District Best Start Network – Member's only page.

6.5 Correspondence

6.5.1 Memorandum 2010: EL6 from Jim Grieves

- This was reviewed by Heather Exley – see notes under 6.2.1

6.5.2 Services for Students with Special Needs/ Special education Needs and the Early Learning Program Year One, 2010-11: May 6, 2010.

- Sarah reviewed the document. A copy of the memo can be found at www.kenoradistrictbeststart.ca in the members only page.

6.6 Update from the French Language Network

Josee Little

- Deferred to next meeting.

6.7 Sub-committee Updates:

6.7.1 Communication

Sarah Stevenson

- See attached minutes from the May 12 meeting (Attachment 3)

6.7.2 Caring and Sharing

Sarah Stevenson

- Caring and Sharing will be held on October 2/10 at the Centre in Dryden.
- Jim Grieves will provide the Key Note address.
- The call for presenters went out last week and the response so far has been overwhelming.
- There has been some discussion around expanding the symposium to two days.
- The format will be similar to last years with vendor displays & partner displays.
- The Rainy River District will be invited to present and participate.
- The next meeting will be May 27, 2010

6.7.3 18-Month Well Baby/Universal Screening/Parenting

- Lynn, Kelly & Sarah had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Jean Clinton on April 23.
- Strategies to engage physicians were discussed
- See attached notes. (Attachment 4)

6.7.4 ELP Transition Committee

Sarah Stevenson

- The committee met on April 29, 2010
- Discussion around the gentle entry process and the challenges it puts on parents.
- See attached notes. (attachment 5).

7. Best Start Network Financial Report

7.1 Kenora District Best Start Network YTD Financial

Sarah Stevenson

2010 Best Start Network Financial Report	May 19, 2010	
Total 2010 Budget		\$28,800
Best Start administration cost to Kenora District Services Board		\$10,000
Early Learning and Child Care Conference		2,500
Caring and Sharing		5,000
Dinner with Dr. Jean Clinton		1,500
Best Start Communication		
Q-104 Radio Spots (Committed)		600
(spent this far)		255
(remaining balance)		345
RRDSSAB (Website Costs paid)		494
Co-Chair Travel Costs (paid)	Sault Ste Marie regional Meeting airfare	1,996
Best Start Network Meetings (budget)	(based on 2009)	1,200
(actual)		311
Tele-conferences (budget)	(based on 2009)	600
(actual)		305
		<hr/>
		22,390
		6,410

7.2 Best Start Network Budget Request for 2010

- None at this time.

8. New Business

8.1 Best Start Partners Updates

All

Best Start Hubs – Leanne Mineault

- Leanne extended her thanks to the Network for their support of the conference held in April. It was an overwhelming success with 181 of 198 registrants attending.
- Dr. Jean Clinton was an excellent Key Note speaker.
- Lynn extended her thanks to Leanne and the planning committee for a job well done.

CAP C – Wabigoon – Arlene Williams

- Stand alone agency in Wabigoon
- Secured funding for the next 2 years
- Run several programs for families in Wabigoon including walking & regalia making

- Several foster families in Wabigoon that are not aware as to what is out there for them, so there is a focus on teaching them.
- Partnerships with NWHU & the Dryden Native Friendship Centre to provide different programs including a holistic diabetes program
- Partnership with the Kenora Area Health Access Centre to have a nurse practitioner visit the community every 3 weeks.

Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start – Clarise Henrickson

- Will be receiving training on the Seeds of Empathy program for front line staff in August.

Ontario Works – Helen Clark

- The offices are arranging to have a motivational speaker, Cathy Argue, present to the clients in Dryden, Kenora and Sioux Lookout
- Clients have been receiving a \$100.00 incentive to complete high school credit courses through a partnership with the school board

Child Care – Lynn Carlson

- Hopeful for a more seamless system for everyone now that they fall under Ministry of Education.
- There has been a change in the program advisor in the Ministry who is providing more direction to the sites.
- Nicole Nabb (the new Program Advisor) will be working with Child Care Supervisors and the Child Care Resource Worker to streamline processes for programs daily and during licensing.

9. Next Meeting June 16, 2010 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment

- As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

(Attachment 1)

Early Learning Program Implementation Sub-Committee
Best Start Network

The Concept:

As we approach the fall of 2010 and Phase 1 of implementation of the Early Learning Program in ELP schools it is proposed that a sub-committee be formed to support successful implementation through meaningful collaboration.

Mandate:

The committee would meet regularly (to be determined by members) for the purpose of:

- Sharing information
- Forming a regional network
- Working to resolve common issues/concerns
- Describing and building capacity on successful practices

Membership:

Membership to include school board ELP S.O. leads, Best Start Network co-chairs, Manager of Children's Services Division, DSSAB, Program Supervisor Best Start/Child Care MCYS and Education Officer Early Learning Implementation Division EDU.

These leads would be encouraged to send delegates to meetings in cases where they would not be available to attend a meeting.

Meetings: Frequency - To be determined at first meeting

Time: 2 hours

Location: most likely by teleconference or a combination of face-to-face and teleconference

Sample Agenda

- 10:00 – 10:10 a.m. welcome, introductions, outline of day
- 10:10 – 10:45 a.m. update on ELP from Boards; DSSAB and Best Start reps. (5-10 minutes/each)
- 10:45 – 11:30 p.m. Questions, Issues and Concerns
- 11:30 – 12:00 noon Confirming Actions and Next Step Wrap up, setting date for next meeting

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

GUIDE AND ADVISE SYSTEM PLANNING PROJECT PLANNING PROJECTS

Provincial & Municipal Government

Best Start Executive *

Community Coalitions
Healthy Generations Coalition
Red Lake Reproductive Health Coalition
Kenora Family Connection
Child and Family Health Network

Regional French Language Network

Regional School Councils

THE KENORA DISTRICT BEST START NETWORK

Communication Sub-Committee *

Caring and Sharing Sub-Committee

Early Learning Program Implementation Sub-Committee *

Specialized Services Sub-Committee *

Best Start Hub Operators *

Child Care Supervisors

Other community groups:
Housing
Libraries
Parks and Recreation

***Best Start Executive is done in partnership with the Rainy River District Best Start Network**
*** These subcommittees are done in partnership with the Rainy River District Best Start Network**

Promote Best Start

Build Best Start Partner Relations

Special Needs Transition

ELP Implementation

18 Month Well-Baby Strategy

Parenting Programs

Universal Screening

Child Care Quality Assurance

Best Start Hub Coordination

Regional DAC Network

***Community Research Network**

(Attachment 3)

 MINUTES	Date:	May 12, 2010
	Time:	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
	Location:	Teleconference
	Chair:	Sarah Stevenson
Type of meeting:	Communications Sub-Committee	
Participants:	Mildred Beck, Barb Avanthey	
Regrets:	Leanne Mineault	
Absent:	Deb Cousineau, Lynn Carlson	
Call In #:	1-866-613-5223	
Access Code #:	6309109	

1. Welcome & Review of the Agenda

2. Review of Minutes:

(i) March 10, 2010

The March 10, 2010 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

3. Review of the Best Start Communication Activity Plan 2010-2011 from April 1st meeting

Thank you to Leanne for the updated plan.

4. ECE & JK/SK Teacher Collaboration Presentation for March Regional Best Start Meeting

- Sarah and Deb presented the work of the Rainy River and Kenora District Best Start Network, the work that the Networks have collaborated on and the work each network has moved forward with independently.
- The presentation was well received by participants.

5. Update of Projects:

(i) Poster Campaign

- Rainy River District Poster Campaign is Complete
- A summary with the photos to be posted on the website.
- Kenora District Campaign Complete
- A summary with photos will be in the next Caring and Sharing Newsletter

(ii) Radio Ads

Radio ads will end on May 22.

(iii) Book Coupon

Deferred to next meeting

(iv) Children's Service Fairs (Best Start Events)

Deferred to next meeting

(v) Website Development

Rainy River District is waiting for the signed contract Kenora District Best Start Network Co-Chairs.

Kenora District Best Start Network provided feedback at the last meeting to Sarah as to what should be on the members only page.

6. Review and Update pieces of the Best Start Communication Activity Plan and Proposed Budget for 2010-11

- Deferred to the next meeting

7. Other

- Those participating in the call updated the Chair schedule:

**Best Start Communications Subcommittee
Rotating Chair Schedule Commencing June 2010**

June	Barb Avanthey
July	Mildred Beck
August	Lynn Carlson
September	Debby Cousineau
October	Leanne Mineault
November	Sarah Stevenson

8. Next Meeting Date & Chairperson

- June 9, 2010
- Chair: Barb Avanthey

(Attachment 4)

Minutes 18 month Screening Sub Committee
Kenora District Best Start Network
April 22, 2010 Best Western Hotel Kenora

Attendance: Jean Clinton, Sarah Stevenson, Lynn Carlson, Kelly Williams


The above met to try and get some input from Jean Clinton on how to proceed after not getting commitment to the Physicians dinner. Jean first provided the group with an overview of what resources the provinces had available to the various network subcommittees which include:

- There is a person hired through the Offord Center who's job is to develop materials and provide support for the 18 month universal screening and her name is Kristin. She is developing power point presentation and key messaging or scripts individuals can use when talking with the Physicians. Networks will have access to this material
- There is a provincial implementation committee which Jean Clinton is part of that will provide support and resources to networks. Jean has invited our subcommittee to be part of this
- A share kit is being developed of resources for networks

The group went on to brain storm where to begin, Jean also assured us that Kenora is in no way falling behind the province as many areas have not even started to look at this initiative yet. Some ideas the group proposed were:

- Provide webinars or tap into ones already organized to pull in the region
- Talk to pre-school speech regarding how they have gotten the doctors on their radar for referral
- Find a champion who can connect us with the physicians – maybe plan a dinner with Dr. Harland
- Attend the annual Scientific Assembly where many physicians are.
- Make sure we have key people at the table
- Prepare a physician and family friendly handout for Doctors to hand out at the screen
- Make sure that doctors have an easy system to refer once screen indicates referral is required. Ideally one number per community (ISN)
- Grand Rounds is their a video conference Grand Rounds for the Region or should we try and get on the agenda's for each community?
- Prepare a standard response letter that goes back to the doctor from the service provider to let them know that child received service
- Create the best child well being system

(Attachment 5)

 <p>NOTES</p>	Date:	April 29, 2010
	Time:	9:00 to 10:00 am
	Location:	Teleconference
	Lead:	Sarah Stevenson
Type of meeting:	ELP Transition Sub-Committee	
Participants:	Syrena Lalonde (Principal, Pinewood School) Karen Vanderbrant (Teacher, Pinewood School) Lynn Carlson (Manager, City of Dryden, Child Care Programs), Colleen Neil (City of Kenora, Recreation Programs), Teresa Clarke (Supervisor, City of Kenora, Child Care Programs), Barb Jackson (Manager, Child Care Programs, Lake of the Woods Child Development Center), Trudy Cederwall (Principal, St. Louis School), Caryl Hron(Superintendent, Keewatin Patricia District School Board), Sarah Stevenson(Manager of Children’ Programs, Kenora District Services Board), Carol Sanna, (Supervisor, Child Care Programs, Municipality of Red Lake), Rikki Burke (Supervisor, Sioux Mountain Children’s Center) Kelly Negus, (Manager, Municipality of Sioux Lookout Child Care Programs)	
Regrets:	Murray Delorme (Kenora Catholic District School Board)	
Absent:		

9. Welcome and Introductions

- Sarah welcomed everyone, those present and on teleconference introduced them self.

10. Topics for Discussion

Joint Announcement between Ministry of Education and Ministry of Children and Youth

- Sarah provided an overview of the announcement made on Wednesday, April 27, 2010, pertaining to the passing of Bill 242.
- Child Care will be transferred from the MCYS to MEDU. The transfer will take place in phases. Policy and Program Responsibilities will move immediately, funding and contract management will move in the fall.
- Further information will be coming.

Updates from School Boards on the Status of Phase 1 Implementation

Keewatin Patricia District School Board

- Caryl provided an overview of the Keewatin Patricia Districts School Boards position thus far with implementing ELP.
- Training opportunities will be provided in July for Early Childhood Educators and Teachers together. This training will be voluntary.
- 28 students are registered at Pinewood School for the regular day of the Early Program.
- 27 Students are registered at Evergreen School for the regular day of the Early Learning Program.
- May 31, is the deadline for parents to confirm need for the extended day. Keewatin Patricia District School Board will have a clearer picture of need for the Extended Day at that time. They will be able to share with current operators of the program their intentions once the information is confirmed.
- Lynn asked Caryl if they could meet so she could share a list of families currently using the after school service, that they could make contact with to ensure they are aware of the possible changes. This may provide Pinewood with enough children to offer the extended day. Teresa could do the same for Evergreen.
- Keewatin Patricia District School Boards HR Department is working on the details for hiring the Early Childhood Educators for the ELP.

Kenora Catholic District School Board

- 37 Students are registered for the regular day portion of ELP at St. Louis School.
- 21 children are registered for the extended in the pm and 9 children are register for the am extended day.
- The School Board has met with the current provider about providing the extended day.
- The Kenora Catholic District School Board is looking at two models for implementing ELP. They are looking at a team teaching approach.
- St. Louis School is only funded for 26 students for ELP the additional funding for children in the program will come from their own budget.

Update from the Keewatin Patricia District School Board on Phase 2

- KPDSB shared the options for Phase 2 at the Kenora District Best Start Network Meeting on April 7. They include, Riverview, Ignace, Lillian Berg, Ear Falls, and Keewatin Public Schools.
- KPDSB has submitted the options to the Ministry of Education.
- The Ministry of Children and Youth has followed up with Sarah on Child Care Impact in the District.
- May 21 is the date set to release the name of the school implementing ELP in Phase 2.

The Full Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program Curriculum

- The curriculum for the new Early Learning Program has been released.
- The Ministry Of Education will be hosting a follow up session to the Curriculum Consult meeting held earlier this winter, in Thunder Bay on June 2 and 3. Caryl, Lynn, Carol, and Rikki, will be attending.

Transition to School Document for Children with Special Needs

- A copy of the document was forwarded with the agenda.

- Sarah shared the process that document was created, Special Education Representation from KPDSB, KCDSB and NWCDSD participated in the process.
- The document was completed in February and forwarded to Kenora District Best Start partners to begin using. Each organization is responsible for ensuring all partners are aware of their Role and Responsibilities as outlined in the document.
- November was identified by school boards as a key month to begin connecting families with schools for the following school year, in order to ensure resources for the child are in place.
- The committee has agreed to revisit the document in the fall and discuss how it has been implemented and if any revisions need to be made.
- At the time of this meeting KPDSB Principals have not seen the document.

Action: Caryl will follow up with Special Education Department as to where they are at with sharing the document within KPDSB.

Fee Subsidy Administration for the Extended Day

- Sarah explained she had placed this item on the agenda prior to the announcement on Wednesday.
- She has since learned further direction will be coming from Ministry of Education. Information can be expected by mid May.
- At a meeting earlier this morning, Sarah learned that School Boards could enter into agreement with local municipalities or child care operators in order to collect fees for the extended day. Further information can be provided as the direction and guidelines from the Ministry of Education role out.

Gentle Entry

- The topic of Gentle Entry came forward at the Kenora District Best Start Network Meeting and the Network decided it was a topic for this subcommittee.
- Child Care Managers on the line had an opportunity to share the challenges they experience trying to provide care for families who are in the process of starting JK. As well as trying to provide service to new children waiting for care.
- Though child care programs make an effort to balance the process, many families are postponed service or are required to make alternate arrangements while transitioning to school or waiting for space to become available. This has the greatest impact on parents that are high school and college students who are also starting school at the same time.
- Kenora Catholic District School Board is looking at a one week gentle entry process.
- SK Children start immediately in both boards.
- Keewatin Patricia District School will be looking at this issue.

Partnerships

- All schools in Kenora, Dryden, Red Lake, Ignace, and Sioux Lookout currently partner with a Child Care Operators to provide before and/or after school programs based on community need.
- Best Start Hubs are going to need to provide outreach service to schools in the coming year. Sarah is currently gathering further information on how this is managed in other districts.
- Teresa shared how they have been able to partner with the school and provide the breakfast program in exchange for space to operate their summer program at King George School.

- Carol shared the food process in Red Lake and how their meals are catered through an agreement with the hospital.
- Sarah offered to present to School Boards and Principals an overview of Child Care Funding, regulations, and program structures. In order for School Boards and Schools to have a better understanding of Child Care as we move forward with further collaboration.
- It was agreed that this meeting topic will evolve as items are identified from all partners.

Action: Sarah will contact all Superintendents to arrange presentation times.

Caring and Sharing 2010

- Date has been set for Saturday, October 2, 2010 and will be taking place at the Center in Dryden.
- The format will be similar to last year's event, a Full day Symposium with a keynote address and break out sessions provided by Best Start Partners.
- Sarah will be sending out a Call for Presenters next week.
- Assistant Deputy Minister of the Early Learning Division, Ministry of Education Jim Grieves will be providing the Keynote Address.

Next Meeting Date

June 7, 2010 9-10:30 am Via teleconference