

# Education Committee Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

### February 21, 2007

Diane Alexander	Tiffany Montley	Maria Gonzalez
Lucille Taylor	Jennifer Alexander	Isolda Davila
Jucinta Passament	Laura Barnes	Sandra Gonzalez-Murray
Tracey Boyd-Sandidge	Sandra Rumbler	Sarah Dvorzik
Margaret Jordan	Barbara Becker	Wei Lian Xian
Janet Williamson	Joy R. Martin	Maria Isabel Arreguin
Carrie Clark	Anne E. Bunch	Tarah Kandell
Allen Rosales	Elysia Aufmuth	Denise Jordan
Ekoi Florence	Ernestine Carr-Thomas	Duane Kirksey
Deborah Jaye	Tracey Young	Anya Robinson
Barbara O'Laughlin	Bonnie Kisielewski	Hye K. Choi

#### I. Welcome:

All members of the Education Committee were welcomed by Co-Chair Janet Williamson, Assistant Director of Children and Youth Services (CYS). Derbert Plaza, Co-Chair was unable to attend the meeting and a volunteer was solicited to act in his place. Jennifer Alexander volunteered to act as Co-Chair. Jacinta Passament and Margaret Jordan, CYS Support Service Coordinators were identified as the note takers for the meeting.

#### II. Reading of Approval Minutes:

The minutes from the January 17, 2007 Education Advisory Committee meeting were distributed and reviewed. Veronica Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections and/or additions and a committee member seconded the motion.

#### III. CYS Report:

The Department of Children and Youth Services will be sponsoring 40 participants to attend *Chicago Commons - Spring Learning Tour 2007*. The tour will take place on *Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> & Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>*. This is an all day tour starting at 8:30 a.m. and will end at 5 p.m. The tour will consist of various presentations by teachers and coordinators and a tour of their four Reggio Emillo sites. Continental breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided. There will also be a reception held on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> after the tour. All registered participants will meet in the morning at Daley College on both days.

The committee was informed that all delegate and partner agencies should have gone through the *ECERS-R assessment* and received a summary report. Agencies will also receive the *Program Administration Scale (PAS)* report within a few weeks. The McCormick Tribune Center will conduct a one-day

training titled ***“From Good to Great” on March 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007*** to better acquaint sites with the tool and interpreting its results.

A letter regarding the ***Story Bus Follow-up Assessment Activity*** has been distributed; CYS staff members will be going out to the sites to receive feedback from the Head Start teachers participating in the follow-up activity starting in April. Participants will be paid a stipend of \$100.00.

The follow-up training for participants who attended the four-day intensive ***Creative Curriculum*** training on October 23 – 27, will take place on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> for teachers and Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> for education coordinators and single/mult-site directors. The training will be held at the King Center, 4314 S. Cottage Grove from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In partnership with National Louis University – Dr. Effie O. Ellis Head Start Center, CYS will conduct a two part training for sixty (60) Head Start teachers on ***March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> focusing on “Individualizing Curriculum Through Observation”*** and also on ***March 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> focusing on “Portfolio Development Through Observation”***. All trainings sessions are limited to 20 participants and all training will take place at Effie O. Ellis Center, 10 S. Kedzie.

CYS will conduct several workshops for teachers in Math and Science during the months of March, April and May. The ***Math workshop*** will be held on ***March 29<sup>th</sup> at the King Center***, 4314 S. Cottage Grove. The ***Science*** workshops will be held on ***April 25<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Garfield Park Conservatory***. All training will be held from 8:30am – 4:30pm.

A ***STEP*** (advanced) training scheduled was distributed to the committee for review. The training will be ***March 13<sup>th</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>***.

**IV. Teacher Qualifications:**

CYS Education Unit has recently received several inquiries regarding teacher qualifications. Committee members were informed that the qualifications needed for teachers has not changed since the last Head Start Reauthorization. ***All teachers must have a minimum of an Associates degree in Early Childhood Education/Child Development or a CDA credential. Teacher assistants must have a minimum of six hours of Early Childhood Education/Child Development.***

**V. Monitoring /Technical Assistance Feedback:**

CYS Support Service Coordinators gave the Committee members feedback on some of the concerns, challenges and issues they discover when conducting site visits. These issues include the following: portfolios, curriculum assessments, parent conferences, home visits, time-out, displaying children’s work, teacher-

directed vs. child-initiated activities. Committee members provided input, asked questions and gave suggestions regarding some of the issues discussed.

**VI. School-Age Committee:**

Sandra Gonzalez informed the committee that the School-Age Committee will be meeting on a bi-monthly basis. The next meeting will be held February 22, 2007, at the Chicago Center for Early Education (Malcolm X. College). Debbie Jay will be the Co-Chair. Minutes for this meeting will also be provided.

**VII. Announcements:**

Barbara O' Laughlin informed the Committee about handouts provided by the Chicago Public Library on the "Best of the Best Books for Great Kids".

Sandra Rumbler, CPS/CYS Disabilities Services informed the committee of a workshop on *March 15, 2007 focusing on the "Positive Behavior Support for Children with Special Needs"*.

**VIII. Next Meeting Date:**

The next Education Committee Meeting will be on March 21, 2007 at the Center for Early Education from 1:30pm – 3:30pm.