

General Education Update for February 2020 Board Meeting

Great Start Collaborative Talking is Teaching

- Two final Talking is Teaching Parent training opportunities will be offered to wrap up the Trusted Advisors funding received through the Michigan Department of Education. The response to this material has been very well received and a plan will be developed for being able to provide more in the near future. In addition, several agencies were represented at an agency training in late January with the intent being to spread the message and materials beyond our current reach. Additional marketing/outreach in the community is planned for the next several months.

Great Start Collaborative Child Care Forum

- The Great Start Collaborative and Child Care Network partnered to host a Child Care Forum on February 6th. A little over a dozen community stakeholders came together to hear background about the issue, what's been tried so far and to discuss possible strategies for impacting the problem. The Early Care/Learning & Literacy sub-committee of the GSC will strategize about what the next steps might be for continuing to work on this challenge.

GSRP & Hillsdale County Preschool Joint Recruitment

- Preschool Connect is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24th, 2020 from 4:00 to 6:30pm. The event will take place in the lower level of the HCISD Hayes building. The flier for table recipients has been released and can be found [here](#). A [save the date](#) has been released to parents, students, and community members, however, the full event flier has not yet been released. We anticipate its release early next week with the confirmation of services available at the event.
- Our School Readiness Advisory Committee will be holding a meeting on February 25, 2020, from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. This meeting is in collaboration with the Great Start Collaborative and focuses on the issue of before and after school care/child care. Members of the Early Care/Learning & Literacy sub-committee will share their Child Care Forum presentation. The Meeting will take place in the Gym of Greenfield School. Flier located [here](#).

Literacy

- As a result of the approval of the supplemental budget, Hillsdale County Intermediate School District has been awarded an additional allocation for the 35a(4) ISD Early Literacy Coach grant from Michigan Department of Education.. Hillsdale County Intermediate School District is currently in the process of hiring a new coach. This position will be an integral force as we continue to support the early literacy initiative in the state as well as promote literacy growth for the students of our county.