



**C.O.O.R.**

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: Shawn Petri, Superintendent

From: Katie Keith, Early Childhood Supervisor

Date: November 2024

Subject: Early Childhood Update

**Great Start to Quality**

We are celebrating accomplishing our goal that we set at Beginning October 1, 2024, Our grant was awarded to the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC). Because of the short turnaround of the grant application and award, we are patiently waiting for our approved budget and scope of work for this fiscal year. In the meantime, we are continuing the great work that we do. We have shared our Professional Development opportunities for the year. These range from in person events, virtual trainings that are live and some that are self-paced so that there is something for everyone's learning style and needs. We have CPR/First Aid offerings, A series of all of the modules of the Birth to Three Literacy trainings, Self-paced Business and Administration courses as well as some courses on Program Assessment tools (CLASS and The Environmental Rating Scale). These trainings help prepare Child Care programs to prepare for an onsite observation for the top two levels of Quality within our Quality Rating System.

We partnered with the COP Great Start Collaborative to host a Math and Literacy Networking night with dinner and give away items for the participants. There were 12 attendees and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the items to support math and literacy in their environments.

We also are so excited that one of our centers in Iosco county, Little Rebels, has agreed to have 2 of the employees participate in the Michigan Works Child Care Apprenticeship program. We have been promoting this to our providers and are glad that Tiny Rebels is going to give this program a try in order to build up the professionalism and credentials within the field. Below is a picture of the employees signing up for the program:



## Great Start Collaborative & Great Start Parent Coalition

We had another opportunity to partner with Gerrish Township Fire/EMS. They helped us install a Talking is Teaching Playground at their park. This site also includes one of our little libraries which was installed late summer.



A project of Michigan's Early Childhood Operations Team (ECOT) is creating a miniseries of short videos highlighting a large number of programs and services available in Michigan for families with children up to age 5, and for families that are expecting children. Our Early Childhood Department was given a great opportunity to showcase how we are supporting families in our communities.

The camera crew came October 17th and 18th to two different sites. On October 17th we highlighted our Parent and Child Engagement group that is hosted at the Rose City Elementary School. There we had a parent and a grandparent interview and shared their positive experiences with not only our Parent/Child Engagements but also with the Great Start Collaborative and Family Coalition. On October 18th, we met in Roscommon at Gerrish Township where the project interviewed a parent who received one of our Talking is Teaching Newborn Literacy bags as well as spoke with her about going into early childhood and working in our GSRP classrooms. They also interviewed Gina Brunskill, one of our preschool admin, who previously worked as an elementary principal and is a huge advocate for early childhood. We also highlighted our Talking is Teaching Playground and Little Library. This project will likely

be shared out around March of next year. The statewide audience of the miniseries includes Michigan's residents, early childhood workforce, policymakers, and government agencies that are supported by the PDGB5 grant. The national audience includes the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, federal policymakers, and other U.S. state education agencies that were awarded the federal PDGB5 grant. We are excited to be the only northern lower ISD to be highlighted in this project.



## Great Start Readiness Program

There are 306 students enrolled in GSRP as of now. Recruitment and marketing continues to attempt to fill the remaining seats.

West Branch-Rose City GSRP is in their fourth year of Early Childhood Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (EC PBIS) and Grayling Co-op GSRP is in their second year of EC PBIS. The programs are continuing to build systems and enhance policies and protocols with each program. Our leadership teams meet monthly to support the growth of the work. Rebekah and Katie continue to expand their learning and knowledge by attending professional learning and conferences.

In conjunction with West Branch-Rose City Area Schools, we received an award again for our work with EC PBIS.

### [Letter](#)

Congratulations! West Branch-Rose City Area Schools has received a MiMTSS Recognition

award for efforts during the 2023-2024 school year. Please find a letter attached to this email with details of your recognition award. If your local ISD also has MiMTSS Data System Users, they are copied on this email message as well.

Michigan educators work tirelessly on behalf of learners and do so much that is worthy of celebration and acknowledgment. The MiMTSS Recognition process provides one way to shine a positive light on work happening within the state related to implementing an MTSS framework to meet the needs of all learners.

Schools, districts, and intermediate school districts (ISDs) were eligible for two types of MTSS Recognition during 2023-2024 to reflect a range of successes: 1) MTSS Data Utilization and 2) MTSS Implementation and Impact. This recognition process is based on information housed in the MiMTSS Data System (<https://mimtssdata.org/MIData/Account/Login>), and all criteria are posted on the MiMTSS TA Center website (<https://mimtsstac.org/evaluation-research/results/mimtss-recognition>).