

## **General Education Update for meeting on 12/20/18:**

### **Early Literacy Funding**

- Over \$79,000 has been awarded among the 10 local school districts in Hillsdale County for early literacy. State funds from the Additional Instructional Time Grant allows awarded schools to use the money on K-3 students who have been identified as needing additional supports to be reading at grade level by the end of third grade. LEAs have designated money to be spent on interventions, summer reading initiatives, technology supports, additional staff support, and professional learning, to name a few.

### **ISD Early Literacy Coaching Grant**

- HCISD received notification that we are recipients of 2 ISD Early Literacy Coaching Grants for 2018-2019. This funding allows HCISD to continue to staff an ISD literacy coach to assist teachers and district coaches in developing and instructional strategies to have students reading at grade level by the end of third grade. The second grant allows HCISD to continue to support HCISD's coaching network made up of 9 early literacy coaches from Hillsdale County.

### **Pre-kindergarten Literacy Training**

- Three ISD staff members were selected and attended the Pre-Kindergarten Training of Trainers Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy. The staff trained will be training educators and care providers in their local regions around research-supported literacy practices. This project is being funded through Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge grant. The trainers are working to collaborate with the Great Start Readiness Program, Head Start Program, and local care providers to determine dates and offerings to hold the trainings.

### **Great Start Collaborative Parent Coalition**

- The Great Start Collaborative Parent Coalition hosted a Parent Meeting on November 17th from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Lisa Dove with Kindermusik engaged children and families in music and movement activities and shared information on the importance of music in children's development. Nine families attended, more than half had not attended a Parent Meeting in the past. The next meeting will be on January 24th with a presentation on how to save money during the winter months. A meal and child care are provided. Families can register at [www.greatstarhillsdale.com](http://www.greatstarhillsdale.com)

### **Winter Fest**

- A collaborative effort between Early Head Start, Integro, Jonesville Library, HCISD Early Childhood Staff and the Great Start Collaborative was held on December 4th with 62 families in attendance, made up of 119 children and 111 adults. Hands on arts and crafts, an obstacle course, pictures with Santa and/or a snowman scene, and dinner was offered. All children in attendance were invited to select a book to take home.

### **Parents as Teachers**

- The Great Start Collaborative applied for a grant through the Hillsdale County Community Foundation and was awarded \$20,000 to support the local Parents as Teachers initiative. Due to GSC cuts this year, those contracted funds were cut to Highfields and Integro who provide the parent education offerings. This funding will allow amendments to be written, increasing the funding for each of their agencies, which increases the number of children and families who can be served.

### **GSRP Update**

- Contracts have been sent to our sub-recipients. All but one have been signed and returned.
- Early Childhood Specialist, Linda Wise, hosted a phenomenal PD opportunity on Friday, November 16th at the Hayes building. The training focused on Increasing Hands-On Math in the Classroom (Counts; Quantifies; Connects Numerals with their Quantities; Understands Shapes; Measures Objects; Represents & Analyzes Data) and was attended by over 50 preschool staff members from across Hillsdale County.

### **Leading and Learning Network**

- We have averaged 44 principals from Hillsdale and Jackson County regularly participating in this learning network. We have principals from Hillsdale, Jonesville, Litchfield, and the ISD represented. This network emerged out of the need to support and change the most underserved population, which are our building leaders. They are our agents of change within our schools and rarely are they able to come together to be re-tooled. As the role of the principal has shifted and the expectations have increased, we have focused on the personal leadership development and the professional/technical development. We have grounded the work in each leader's personal flipped leadership profile to identify personal constraints and behavior patterns within themselves and focusing on the high leverage points within the root causes of the counterproductive behaviors. This behavioral data has helped reveal precisely what these patterns are and how to change them. We are at a midpoint, and have received very positive feedback

with inspiring stories of change and are looking forward to six more sessions with these remarkable leaders.

#### **County-wide Upcoming Common PD**

- We are looking forward to providing some nationally recognized professional learning opportunities for our county districts during our upcoming “common PD days” on 1/14 and 1/21. Our registrations are looking very healthy and we are happy to serve and learn with our districts in this relevant, needed, and requested professional learning.

#### **Local District Support Celebration**

- We are continuing to lean in for our local districts and are happy to see Jonesville Schools receive a \$20,000 Title II grant that we partnered with them to write on their behalf. We will be working with their administration to develop ways to expand the literacy capacity in their district as well as develop an instructional rounds model.