

General Education Update for meeting on 2/21/19:

Literacy Coach and Principal Joint Meeting

- On February 27th the local literacy coaches and building principals will come together to assess and reflect on school-wide systems of practice around early literacy. Coaches and principals will be working together to create Read By Third Grade brochures which will be used as a resource to support parents with the upcoming implementation of the Read By Third Grade Law for 2019-2020.

Grades 4-5 Literacy Essential Training

- The ISD literacy specialist attended the 4-5 Essential training along with a team of 4 local teachers. Efforts are in place to support teachers in setting instructional goals and implementing teaching strategies around research-based practices from the training.

Recent Great Start Collaborative Grant Applications

- The Early Care/Learning & Literacy of the GSC has recently submitted 2 grant proposals to the Community Foundation:
 - Love Your Community Grant Proposal - to support funding of the first ever Hillsdale County Community BookWalk, which blends literacy and nutrition efforts together via local Farmers Market efforts. Participating families are provided tokens to redeem for fresh produce, and can earn an additional token by visiting a local county library.
 - Healthy Seniors/Healthy Yough Grant Proposal - to support the start-up expenses of license-exempt child care providers in making a move to become a licensed provider. Proposal would allow a minimum of 6 providers to become licensed in Hillsdale County.

GSRP Update

- Early Childhood Specialist, Linda Wise, along with Literacy Specialist Stacy Ansel, hosted a phenomenal PD opportunity on Friday, February 8th at the Hayes building. The training focused on Hands-On Literacy in the Classroom and was attended by over 50 preschool staff members from across Hillsdale County.
- The GSRP Funding Application has been released by the state and is due March 27, 2019. We are working to complete this application to secure funding for GSRP slots in the 2019-2020 school year.
- GSRP in collaboration with the Great Start Collaborative (GSC), Hillsdale County ISD Early Intervention Programs and CAA/Head Start, have begun planning of the Preschool Connect event. Preschool Connect provides an opportunity for parents to come learn about the preschool opportunities available in Hillsdale County and even pre-register. The date is set for March 25th.

- Early Childhood Count Day took place on 2-6-19. Hillsdale County GSRP slots were able to support 251 eligible students since the start of the school year.

County-wide PD Feedback

- We had an outstanding Professional Learning day on 1/21. We had educators from across the county engage in the various learning opportunities. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to building upon that energy during our March 11th professional learning day. We will offer learning sessions on cooperative learning, echoes and reflections from the Holocaust, Stem Network Day 2, and Developing Academic Language and Literacy.

Instructional Rounds Launch

- As a part of the Title II grant plan that we partnered with Jonesville Community Schools, we are excited to be launching an Instructional Rounds pilot at Williams Elementary. This will be facilitated by Dr. Kyle Mayer from the HIL (High Impact Leadership) project and Reading Now Network with the support of Stacy and Jonathan. Our goal is to learn this Harvard University Instructional Rounds process by going through this with the staff of Williams Elementary as a means to target instructional supports around literacy.