

**Enfield School Readiness Council**  
**And**  
**KITE Collaborative**  
**at the**  
**Hazardville Fire Department**  
**Wednesday, May 12, 2010 5:30p.m.**

*The mission of KITE is to ensure that all families with young children in Enfield have knowledge of and access to quality early care and educational opportunities both in and outside of the home.*

**In Attendance:** There were 26 people in attendance.

Amy Morales – Family Resource Center	Amy Witbro – Enfield Public Schools
Alison Keller – United Way	Pam Brown – Dir. Of Social Services
Judy Apruzzese-Desroches – BOE	Debbie Clement – Head Start
Christie Michaud – Moms Club	Tracey Champagne - PLA
Ellen Phillips – Enfield Public Library	Melissa Levasseur – Head Start
Ashley Buck – EPS – Alcorn K	Chris Gomeau – KITE
Kate Faherty – FRC	Karen Weseliza - KITE
Dr. Gerald Calnen – Pro Health Phy.	Kelly Alexander - Parent
Claire Hall - ERfC	Shawn Alenander - Parent
Karen Edelson – ECDC	Melissa Bednarz – Happy Time Preschool
Lori Heacox – Trinity Coll. Child Care	Henry Dutcher – Enfield Public Library
Anne Marie Villa – Pediatrician	Jack Flanagan – Hazardville Fire Dept
Dianna Wassenhove – ECDC	Carlene Elrick - FRC

**I. Welcome and Introductions-Karen Weseliza**

Karen opened the meeting @ 5:50 by welcoming everyone. Introductions were made.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes from the April 7, 2010 KITE Meeting**

Sarah Long noted that she was at the April meeting and was not listed in the attendance. The minutes were accepted with the correction made.

**III. School Readiness Business/Update – Karen Edelson**

Dianna Wassenhove reported that the slots (15 + 5) are currently full. Their mid year cycle report was due May 20<sup>th</sup> and it was completed and sent in on time.

**IV. Special Guest: Henry Dutcher – EPL – 1<sup>st</sup> Readers Presentation:** Henry Dutcher presented to KITE the idea of promoting early literacy through a community wide support program for children who read their first book. We looked at an example of this type of program in Somerset Kentucky where they “ring the literacy bell” each time a child reads a book for the first time. In order to successfully accomplish this goal the community would need to embrace this. KITE is going to form a workgroup to work on this project. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Ellen Phillips will chair the workgroup. This will be on the agenda for our next meeting.

**V. KITE Updates:**

**a. Leadership Committee Updates**

- **Grant Status Update:** Chris reported that KITE did not receive the \$5,000.00 Frederick G. Adams Award from the United Way. We did receive, however, the Community Planning Grant from the WCGMF in the amount of \$22,500.00.

#### b. Committees and Work Groups Updates

##### Committees:

- **Transition to Kindergarten/Quality Enhancement:** Held their last meeting of the school year last week. The kindergarten Readiness form has been mailed out. All of the kindergarten registration signs were collected and accounted for. The preschool surveys were given to all parents/guardians who registered their children for kindergarten this year. Amy W. will have the results.
- **Community Outreach:** The Task Force held their first meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>. In attendance were Dr. Calnen, Dr. Villa, Brian Maurer – Physician Assistant, Amy Morales – Family Resource Center, Sarah Long – CHC, and Chris Gomeau – KITE. Sarah Long took the role of committee chairperson. The meeting covered topics such as the goals of the task force, the developmental screenings currently being used and how the Task Force will proceed going forward. Sarah is going to see if Dr. Dudley from CHC in New Britain will agree to come speak at the next meeting. The May meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- **Community Planning:** Pam Brown reported that they are in the process of hiring a consultant to work with them on the development of a community plan for Enfield. There have been several hours put aside for interviewing and they are hoping to have one hired by the end of the first week in June. Pam is also looking into Results Based Accountability (RBA) training. RBA is a tool used in Community Planning in which you start with your desired end result and work your way backwards, defining indicators and gathering information. Anyone interested in taking the training should contact Chris or Pam. A new institute will be starting in June.
- **Parent Committee:** Betsy Bergman was not able to attend the meeting. She will be working over the summer to try to organize a networking opportunity for pre-school parents. She is hoping to hold informational meeting for the parents group in October. The focus would be to identify issues & concerns that pre-school parents have and report to KITE.

##### Workgroups:

- **Book Buddies:** This committee reported that the second round of books is out. They are looking into different funding opportunities for next year.
- **Website:** Ellen Phillips reported that they have received some feedback for the new site development. She encouraged those who have not done so to look at the proposed changes and e-mail her. She will be meeting with Dan Desroches to discuss the changes

#### IV. Community Partnerships and Events

- Parent Leadership Association/Parent Leadership Academy:** The Parent Leadership Academy has finished all of their class work. Their final project will be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- PIE:** Amy W. reported that the "Enfield Gets Ready for Kindergarten" will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-8:00 at Henry Barnard School. "Enfield Gets Ready for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Enfield Gets Ready for" will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup> at Barnard School. ETV is going to air the segments over the summer. This will include 1<sup>st</sup> grade expectations, Frequently asked questions and information sessions on core subject areas. Viewers will be told that they can pick up packets at the Public Library. An Enfield Community Resource Directory has been developed as an outcome from

the Community Conversation held in March. The prison will be generously printing the copies for free.

- c. **Community Assessment:** This committee reported that all the information is gathered they are now working with a new writer to finish publishing the data. This will be used as a stepping off point for the Community Plan.

**V. Announcements:**

- Amy Morales announced that 211 Child Care will be holding a workshop at the ECDC for home care providers on licencing.
- Pam Brown announced that the Town of Enfield along with Social Services will be holding a Summer Concert Series on the Town Green. The first concert will be *Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem* and will be held on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.
- Christie Michaud will continue to collect books for the Child to Child ministry.
- Alison Keller announced that the United Way of North Central Connecticut will sponsor a Summer Lunch Program from June 28-Aug 27. Free lunch and activities will be offered to all children up to age 18. Lunch will be available M-F from 12:00-12:30 at St. Patrick's Church. They are working in conjunction with the Food Shelf and ERfC.
- Karen Edelson announced that on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> Karen Jarmoc will once again be receiving a Children's Champion Legislator Recognition award. Chris will follow up with an e-mail for those who are interested in carpooling down to Hartford.

**VI. Next Steps:**

- Ellen Phillips will contact those who are interested in the 1<sup>st</sup> Readers sub committee
- Chris and Pam will make arrangements for those who are interested to participate in the RBA Institute at the Memorial Fund in June.
- Continue to forward your comments on the website to Ellen

**IX. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.**