

CU Cradle2Career

Pathways to Success for Every Student



Goal Team Monthly Report

Goal Team: Kindergarten Readiness

1. Any updates since the last report as copied below

Bev & Patti (with the help of Central High School Interact and AVID students) supported a “Kindergarten Ready, First Grade Smart” night at BTW and Stratton Elementary Schools in Champaign. The Stratton night struggled with attendance having only 3 students and their families attend. The BTW night saw over 10 (Patti may have concrete #) and the target audience was clearly in attendance. All K students were invited but it was clearly stated that it was most appropriate for current K students that were struggling.

Families were fed dinner, parents were involved in an instructional session with the K teachers on how and why to support their student at home while K students received some extra practice and support from other staff. Siblings were engaged in fun & games by the high school students. Free books for each student and siblings at the end of the night.

Comments from parents and staff were extremely positive. Another night is planned for first week of December.

The Community Awareness strategy team has held 2 of 3 planned key influencer’s focus groups. Very pleased with response and information gained. When #3 is complete, we will develop a plan for including parents and develop our communications plan.

The *Child Find* group continues to work on establishing a “centralized point of entry for every child” for our community, especially newborns via the “Baby Talk” model. Talks are continuing with Public Health or Carle Hospital as to access to families of newborns.

2. Progress towards step in the processes that you are currently working on

The Steering committee has approved the *Quality Early Learning (QuEL)* plans to collaboratively implement the “Ready!” pilot this winter/spring as outlined in the grant the team just received (\$58,000, one year grant) . Ready! conducts a series of workshops for parents and children targeted at the developmental stage of the child. The collaborative pilot will be for families of entering kindergarteners and will connect to summer programming. Hopefully, Ready! with one classroom devoted to Spanish speakers . Over time, a series will be introduced for each year of a child’s life.