

# Kindergarten Action Team Agenda

*All learners will be ready for kindergarten.*

January 6, 2016 from 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Town Center, Lower Level Conference Room

**Members Present:** Murielle Atewologun, Diane Baker, Amy Baskin, Kristi Beckman, Merrilyn Berg, Becky Drong, Gretchen Erickson, Sally Garry, Amy Goette, Kari Oanes, Joanne Ross, David Wolff

Time	Topic	Notes
11:55	Check In	
	Call to Order	
12:00	Approve minutes	NA
	Approve agenda	Agenda approved
	Old Business	
	Introductions	Action Team members introduced themselves and shared their roles in the community and interest in the topic of readiness for kindergarten.
12:05	Survey Data: Assets and Barriers	<p>Action Team members reviewed data from a recent survey of community assets and barriers to readiness for kindergarten. Using the “give one, get one” protocol, members highlighted important, interesting, or suprising results from the survey. Highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Austin preschool collaborative is positive and should be expanded</li> <li>• Austin has a good base of educational opportunities</li> <li>• The Rainbow Route and scholarships for preschool are positive. Having the bus at preschool open house was also a strength.</li> <li>• Collaboration with home day cares should be increased</li> <li>• Strong summer programming is an asset and there are early literacy opportunities all year</li> <li>• Communication is a barrier connected to preschool registration, sports and music opportunities, availability of scholarships and transportation, structure of preschool and what “readiness” means in our community.</li> <li>• How can we reduce the fear some parents expressed about putting children on the bus to school?</li> <li>• Preschools are viewed as strong, but by what criteria?</li> <li>• Our preschools are force fit into existing spaces rather than having programming in space dedicated to early childhood learning.</li> <li>• Preschool attendance is a priority in Austin.</li> </ul>

New Business		
	Roles	Document highlighting roles and responsibilities was shared with team. Team facilitator responsibilities were also shared with the ultimate goal of facilitation from one of more of our members.
12:30	Survey Data: Measures and Indicators	Using the “give one, get one” protocol, members reviewed survey data around the topic of possible measures and indicators for readiness for kindergarten. Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social/emotional readiness should be measured</li> <li>• We measure many things. Does each have a specific purpose?</li> <li>• We need to reach out to families and local businesses about the need to reduce the 30 million word gap found between students growing up in poverty.</li> <li>• Many existing measures in place, how can we use these? Some are used to determine “red flags” and others in place to develop student skill sets.</li> <li>• There is a lack of a consistent definition of kindergarten readiness. Therefore this information is not clear to parents or across our preschools.</li> </ul>
	Consistent Meeting Time	Team members completed a brief survey indicating their preference for a consistent meeting time. The first Wednesday of the month at noon was the favored choice.
12:55	Adjourn/Next Steps	Team members were asked to consult with family, friends, and colleagues about what readiness to kindergarten means to them and how it has been measured in our and other communities.

**Next Meeting**

February 3, 2016  
 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Town Center, Lower Level Conference Room