



## Montcalm County

**Minutes: October 2, 2013**

*Early Care and Education Committee*

*Montcalm Area Intermediate School District, PO Box 367 New St. Stanton, MI. 48888 616.225.6146*

[www.greatstartmontcalm.org](http://www.greatstartmontcalm.org)

### **Welcome, Introductions:**

Attendance: Mindy Train, Leigha Harris, Helen Goetz, Kathy Sayles, Buffy Marks, Christine Munger, Shannon Higgins.

#### **☉ New Chair & Secretary:**

Mindy Train nominated Buffy Marks for Chair Person & Secretary; everyone is in agreement & Buffy Marks accepts.

#### **☉ Winter Wear Drive**

##### **○ Starts November 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Winter Wear Drive (Coats, boots, and snow pants) for ages 0 through 12 starts November 1, 2013 thru February 1, 2014 for Montcalm County coordinated by Terry King at DHS in Stanton and Mindy Train. The following areas are being considered for collection boxes to be placed: Seiter Center, Carson City Hospital, and PCA in Edmore, ISD, Greenville Community Church, and United Methodist near Six Lakes, Tri-County Schools, and the Lutheran Church on M91 near the airport. Mindy has requested from the budget to purchase hats, gloves, etc. Mindy has also collected a donation of 20 coats so far. Christine Munger will look into getting collection boxes made from PCA in Edmore as her husband works there.

#### **☉ Harvest Party**

##### **○ Volunteers**

##### **○ Literacy Activity**

The Harvest Party & Potluck will be October 28, 2013 5:00-7:00 pm at the Greenville Community Church; this is a Parent Coalition event. There will be a literacy activity with 4 different books to choose from-1 book for each child 0-5 years old. Activities will include pumpkin decorating, vest/paper bag decorating, paper plate mask and leaf shading. Mindy will be setting up between 4:00 and 4:30 pm. Any volunteers that are able to help with this event are appreciated.

#### **☉ 2013 Early Childhood Conference**

##### **○ Review**

##### **○ What do we want to do for next year**

The Early Childhood Conference was successful with positive comments and 205 attendees. Plans for next year were discussed and suggestion of having next year's event (September 20, 2014) at the Seiter Center in Greenville as there is a cafeteria and a multi-purpose room with a 240+ capacity for attendees; as well as the equipment/technology needed for each session. The Seiter Center would be free vs. the \$2,500 charge for having it at Montcalm Community College. We would want to try to make the vendors more accessible for the attendees to visit between their sessions; suggestions for having Scholastic perform a book fair during this event. Discussed reconsidering what to do for lunch; with the possibility of having boxes lunches from Jimmy Johns (coming to Greenville soon) or another business depending on cost.

**OTHER:** Dolly Parton Imagination Library-Brandy Minikey and Mindy Train have been informed that our area Post Offices have been throwing away any undeliverable books. Brandy and Mindy are working to resolve this situation; we are hoping that our area Post Offices will be able to forward the undeliverable books back to the ISD instead of throwing them away.

**Next Meeting December 4th, from 1:30pm-2:30pm**