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JOINT PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP & PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Minutes

**Sept 20, 2007 3:00pm
Federation Bank, 5th floor conference room
110 N Iowa Ave
Washington, IA 52353**

Present: Tasha Beghtol, Sue Kos, Paula Buckwalter, Jennifer Callahan, Edie Nebel, Megan Jones-Schiebel

1. Scholarship applications

Tasha handed out and reviewed information from applications requesting special circumstance consideration. Application # 53 was awarded 80% tuition scholarship provided the preschool of choice, Montessori of Iowa City, agreed to meet local standards. It was noted that general rule is to confirm that preschools located outside of Washington Co are working with the empowerment area in which they are located. Tasha said that she had confirmed from Johnson Co empowerment coordinator, Laurie Nash, that the Montessori school does not currently meet Johnson Co Empowerment standards. Committee agreed by consensus to notify the preschool and request that they contact Johnson County Empowerment within 10 days in order to receive scholarship funding from Washington Co Empowerment.

Application # 46 was reviewed. Special circumstances of medical bills were discussed. Committee agreed by consensus to deny application for tuition scholarship.

Committee agreed by consensus to set September 20 as deadline for preschool scholarship applications. Tasha noted that there were 2 applications waiting income verification and would be processed once information is received.

Committee noted that standards and guidelines for the tuition scholarship program would need to be reviewed for 2008-2009 school year. Quality standards for preschools and maximum tuition allowable would need to be revised. Paula noted that tuition was substantially higher for some schools. Committee will look at setting averages based on # of days per week a child attends.

2. Transportation requests

Tasha handed out 2 requests from Headstart for two-way transportation approval. Approved by consensus.

3. New Programming

Fluoride varnish – Edie Nebel handed out and reviewed budget for fluoride varnish program. Tasha noted that the state empowerment team was working to clarify questions regarding funding new programming with preschool support dollars. It was noted that the fluoride varnish program may be limited to using empowerment funds only for empowerment funded preschool slots/children. Edie noted that the fluoride program has typically been funded through other avenues that no longer exist. She also explained that the program has been successful and may not continue without new funding support.

CART – Sue Kos and Tasha shared information from their meeting with Grant Wood AEA regarding the CART program. (See handouts) It was noted that GWAEA would need to hire a new position in order to implement the program in Washington Co. The committee reviewed Johnson Co empowerment report and budget as a comparative for cost in Washington Co. committee members agreed that a budget of \$31,400 would be needed to establish the program. Budget includes:

- \$30,000 salary (.5 FTE)
- \$1020 mileage (6 months, 500 miles per month)
- \$380 copy and brochures

Committee members agreed to present CART budget to full Board at the next meeting. Members estimated a total budget of \$40,000 for new programs (\$31,400 CART & \$8600 Fluoride varnish). Tasha noted that she would re-evaluate the budget to determine total funds needed for tuition scholarships and carryover from FY07 to establish total allowable allocations for CART and Fluoride varnish. Tasha will identify actual funds available at the Sept 27th Board meeting.