

**School Readiness Council
Hamden
Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2005**

Members present: Portia Bonner, Louise Brundage, Arlene Cassello, Gretchen Ferri, Lisa Sizer, Mary Marrantino, Susan Rubino, Ellen Thompson, Virginia Wright-Younger, and Karen Piedescalzo, facilitator

1. Community Assessment and Planning Tool – The tool was reviewed, discussed and revised. The updated version will be emailed to all SRC members present for final review.

2. Sub-Committee Updates

A. Steering Committee – no report

B. Communications and Marketing Committee – A new private child related business in Hamden has requested that they be listed on the website. This brings up the issue of the SRC promoting and/or endorsing businesses. Portia Bonner will check to get more information about the business.

C. Program Committee – The Baby Welcome Packets are almost ready to be mailed. The magnets with the www.hamdenkids.org website were designed to look like the logo on the website; they have been printed and delivered. The books and library brochures have been ordered but have not arrived yet. The baby t-shirts and all other materials have been received and are being stored at Alice Peck School. Karen Piedescalzo will be responsible for making up and mailing the packets each month. Names of new babies will be sent from the town clerk's office.

A meeting will be scheduled to plan for the Child Care Expo coming up in March. Ellen Thompson has someone to write press releases for this event.

D. Research and Development Committee – no report

E. Advocacy Committee – no report

3. Community Reports

A. School Readiness Program – More state funding has been awarded for a new School Readiness classroom at Alice Peck School. The program will open in 2006.

B. Family Resource Center – no report

C. PACK – PACK programs are listed on the website.

D. Facilitator – On Wednesday, November 2, Shari Konn-Andrade, (United Way-Infoline) presented “Marketing Your Family Child Care Home” to three home child care providers. The December workshop for home providers was cancelled due to low enrollment.

On Monday, November 7, Dr. Marjorie Rosenthal, Pediatrician, Yale-New Haven Hospital, presented “Recognizing and Preventing Colds and Flu in Children”. There were 16 participants.

On Monday, December 5, Tama Tamarkin, Valarie Copolla, and Mark Marrantino, Hamden Public Schools, presented “Meeting the Special Needs of All Children”. There were 26 participants.

A Child Care Director’s Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at Alice Peck School.

A CPR Workshop will be presented by Chris Ely, a trainer from the American Red Cross, on Thursday, December 15 from 6:00-9:30 pm at Hamden High School.

4. Graustein Report – no report

5. Other Business –

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2006, at 9:00 A.M. at the Government Center Conference Room.