Mission: To support parents as their children’s first teachers, improve access to high quality childcare/preschool and develop a community mobilization plan that will result in quality early learning opportunities for all young children.

Meeting Minutes
Website: www.wwcc.edu/earlylearningcoalition

Present: Yolanda Esquivel, Samantha Bowen, Punkey Adams, Liz McDevitt, Kathy McConnell, Brooke Bouchey, Tina Lopez, Heather Rodriguez, Nancy Carter, Laurie Withers, Nora Bleth, Carla Nibler, Judy Peasley

Old Business:

- Parent Survey Status – Samantha said the surveys are due Monday, March 23, 2009. On Monday March 30, 2009, Michelle Janning, Ph.D., will give the final report with key findings and we will discuss the report at our next meeting on April 16, 2009.

New Business:

- Coalition Updates – Samantha
  
  - Event Committee has discussed having Dave Lawrence come to present at a lunch or dinner around the first week of October. He is a very successful speaker from Florida. His fee will be $3,000.00. Liz McDevitt suggested that his biography be presented at the Leadership Meeting on April 10.
  
  - The Early Learning Calendar is now posted on the website. Please email Samantha events and she will post them. She will be sending out a reminder at the first of every month.
  
  - Born Learning has received $5,000 from Thrive by Five that needs to be spent by May 31st. Hopefully, this will lead to long term funding. Suggested site placement of books around Walla Walla included: DSHS, DCFS, Christian Aid Center, YWCA, and WIC.
Early Learning Coalition Pamphlet

- Proof of the ELC pamphlet was distributed and the group provided feedback on content.

Early Learning Resource Guide

- Existing services were distributed and then the group brainstormed other agencies that serve in our area.
- It was discussed whether or not to set it up in the four areas as the Kids Matter Framework. They are:
  1) Medical Homes
  2) Social and Emotional Health
  3) Early Child Care
  4) Parent Information

Upcoming Events and Activities

- Applied Behavior Analysis by Dept. of Human Services from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.
- April 25, 2009 – Blue Mountain AEYC Conference for Early Childhood Educators and Parents at Davis Elementary School.
- April 25, 2009 – Children’s Day at Washington Park from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- April 26, 2009 – 35th Anniversary of Parent Education at WWCC – 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Parent Child Center
- April 26, 2009 Child Abuse Prevention Walk from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Court House
- May 8 – 10, 2009 Balloon Stampede

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Withers

Our next meeting will be April 16, 2009 from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM at

WWPS Administration Building