



BOONE COUNTY
UPWARD MOBILITY

Early Grade Literacy Workgroup Minutes
May 13, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Central Missouri Community Action (807 N. Providence, Columbia, MO) via Zoom

Meeting Objective: Debrief Raising Readers Launch and discuss workgroup future goals

Attendees: Catherine Miller (Boone County Early Childhood Coalition (BCECC)), Cindy Reese (BCECC), Onni Flint (Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA)), Aaron Fox (Aaron Fox Writes), Sarah Howard (Daniel Boone Regional Library (DBRL)), Gina Jenkins (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Enola-Riann White (BCCSD)

1. Welcome
 - a. Partner Updates
 - i. Cindy Reese (BCECC) shared they are updating the kindergarten readiness tree and they plan to add Raising Readers as a pre-literacy resource link.
 - ii. Sarah Howard (DBRL) shared their new assistant manager has started and attended the Jim Gill concert.
 - iii. Onni Flint (CMCA) provided an overview and update on Show-Me Healthy Relationships.
2. Debrief of Jim Gill Concert
 - a. Enola gave an overview of the concert and feedback from Shelia Plummer. The concert was well attended and AL the otter was very popular. The group identified a missed opportunity to engage with attendees explaining Raising Readers prior to the concert. That education piece will be prioritized at future events.
 - b. The workgroup discussed other outreach opportunities (including the Family Fun Fest series, the Grown-Up Book Fair, and community tabling) are encouraged to include Raising Readers materials to showcase collaboration of partners.
3. Raising Readers report
 - a. The workgroup reviewed early engagement data (email sign-ups, involvement survey completions, and social media followers) and discussed improving the pipeline from email sign-up to active participation by refining communications, adding reminders, and simplifying ways to request and track materials use.
4. Workgroup future goals – postponed to future meeting due to time constraints.
5. Summer 2026 meeting schedule
 - a. The workgroup chose to pivot summer meetings (June, July, August) to virtual one-hour meetings with a standing Raising Readers update.
6. Next Steps
 - a. The next meeting will be dedicated to the discussion of future workgroup goals, how to use data from Raising Readers, and additional outreach opportunities.
7. Closing

Next Workgroup Meeting: June 10, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:00pm via Zoom ONLY

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