



**BOONE COUNTY**  
UPWARD MOBILITY

Early Grade Literacy Workgroup Minutes  
September 9, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:30pm  
via Zoom

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**Meeting Objective:** Discuss workgroup future goals

**Attendees:** Cindy Reese (Boone County Early Childhood Coalition (BCECC)), Sarah Howard (Daniel Boone Regional Library (DBRL)), Aileen Garcia (University of Missouri Extension), Gina Jenkins (Boone County Community Services Department)

1. Welcome
2. Partner Updates
  - a. Sarah (DBRL) provided updates on a recent conversation mentioning the workgroup and Raising Readers to individuals from Columbia Children’s Museum. DBRL is hoping to create a master list of events to help internally plan for DBRL staffing at community events. The workgroup discussed opportunities for potential collaboration with this.
  - b. Cindy (BCECC) shared about the anticipated timeline for expanded translation for individuals to complete screenings in Spanish to be ready by the end of the year.
3. November Meeting
  - a. Workgroup members requested using a poll to find an alternate meeting date for November given the holiday and wish to prioritize scheduling during the first two weeks of the month.
4. Raising Readers Updates
  - a. Book Drive  
Gina mentioned the recent [Raising Readers Boone County Facebook](#) post about the ACA Business Club book drive currently totaling over 200 books collected so far.
  - b. PeachJar  
While PeachJar was not specifically addressed during the meeting, discussion of engagement and ongoing plans for sustaining Raising Readers provided several suggestions for potential approaches moving forward. Those present shared interest in revisiting the topic during the October workgroup meeting in hopes that more individuals could be present for the conversation.
5. Workgroup future goals
  - a. Ideas for potential approaches to engagement, outreach, events, and meeting structure were discussed by the workgroup. Discussion also included a review of past local partnership with Dolly Parton Imagination Library and more recent information on the requirements if there was interest in revisiting this for Boone County.
6. Next Steps
  - a. A meeting poll will be shared with the workgroup to identify a meeting time for November.
7. Closing
  - a. Gina closed the meeting with a reminder of the next meeting date.

**Next Workgroup Meeting:** October 14, 2026 3:00 – 4:30pm via Zoom

**Upward Mobility is an initiative of the Boone County Community Services Department  
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