



## Early Learning Task Force

Session #1

January 5, 2023

4:00-5:24 p.m.

### Members

Ashley Hill  
Kellie Larrabee  
Trina Hall  
Lea Morris  
Kristi Dominguez  
Celina Rodriguez  
Kris Newberry  
Angie George  
Letha Nungesser  
Sarah Hare

Joan Youngquist  
Maggie Homer  
Tashena Montoya  
Kim Hawes  
Juliana Larsen  
Kate Walker  
Rachel Bowlden  
Georgia Eiford

### Welcome/Introductions

Ashley opened the meeting welcoming members, highlighting the purpose of the task force as a recommending group who will work collaboratively to create a 3-5 year plan for early learning in the Ferndale School District.

Each member introduced themselves, sharing their connection to Ferndale Schools and their reason for wanting to be a part of the early learning work of the district. Membership includes a range of expertise and passion in the field of early learning, as well as representation from classroom teachers, specialists, parents, administrators, and community members and partners.

### Superintendent's Overview

Dr. Dominguez kicked off the task force by sharing some of her experience and expertise from her decades of local, state and national leadership in early learning. She talked about the importance of early learning from a child development lens and how investment in early learning results in enhanced student outcomes and graduation success. Dr. Dominguez shared that early learning spans prenatal to third grade, and that the National Center for P-3 has a

framework outlining the critical components for a school district for strong early learning programming.

### Current Landscape

Ashley Hill gave an overview of the early learning landscape in Ferndale School District. She shared the current services for our youngest learners (see presentation slides for more details), highlighting:

- Developmental Preschool
- Jump Start Kindergarten (Transitional K or TK)
- Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

See also presentation information on the Inclusive Transitional Kindergarten (ITK) Grant that we are involved in currently, supporting inclusive Jump Start classrooms, and information on community partners we work with in early learning.

### Upcoming Events

Toddler Time at Mountain View starting January 10<sup>th</sup>

Childfind/Community event at NBLC - January 18<sup>th</sup>

### Preparation for next meeting

In preparation for the next meeting, participants were asked to watch a video featuring Dr. Dominguez talking about early learning, specifically related to kindergarten and transitional K: *The Environment as the Third Teacher*. Key points of the video will be discussed at the January 19 meeting, which is focused on Early Learning Environments.

### Next Meeting

January 19 at 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. at Mountain View Conference Center, Board Room.