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EBR Schools to Host Early Childhood Literacy Summit to Equip Families

BATON ROUGE, LA. — The East Baton Rouge Parish School System's Early Childhood Community Network is hosting a free literacy summit designed to provide families with practical tools, resources and engaging activities to support learning at home.

The "Family Summit: Literacy Beyond the Books" will be held **from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 21** at the Magnolia Gallery and Dumas Room on the campus of Baton Rouge Community College.

The event will feature a series of interactive, 30- to 45-minute mini-workshops, resource tables, demonstrations, giveaways, a children's learning zone and a food court.

"Families serve as a child's initial and most critical educators, making it essential for our Early Childhood Community Network to engage them as true partners rather than passive observers," said Von Cathlene Iyengar, administrative director of Early Childhood. "Fostering collaborative environments and sharing resources with families directly enhances early childhood learning experiences. That's the reason we are holding this Family Summit.

The summit will:

- Provide families with information and resources that support educational opportunities beyond classroom walls.
- Educate caregivers on the impact of literacy skills development on mandated standardized tests as students matriculate within primary education.
- Empower caregivers to actively engage in their child's/children's learning experience within the prime years of brain development.

Families will have opportunities to participate in workshops and hands-on activities, including:

- “Conscious Discipline” (including "Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline").
- “Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial” (includes safety kit and data keeper distribution).
- “How to Maximize Learning in the Early Years” (strategized engagement and tools beyond the classroom).

Families can also explore scholastic resources and receive a book set to encourage reading at home.

Scheduled community partners and vendors include The Basics, Conscious Discipline, Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial, the American Red Cross and EBR Schools Learning Centers, which will be led by early childhood teachers and staff.

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