



January 8, 2020

11:00-12:00

Bristol Board of Education Room – Room #36

**Members Present:** Jess Caetano, Maureen Eaton, Cecelia Garay, Kate Kerchaert, Laruen Kittle, Donna Koser, Karen Lombardi, Alyssa McGhee, Donna Osuch, Mary Alice Petrucelli-Timek, Catherine Plourde, Coral Richardson, Valerie Toner.

**Start Ups/Welcome:** Lauren & Maureen welcomed everyone to the meeting. All present were asked to introduce themselves along with what organization they represented.

**Community Outreach:** United Way of West Central Connecticut has been awarded a grant for the Parent Leadership Training Institute(PLTI) and the Children’s Leadership Training Institute (ages 4 and older). The training will begin on January 11<sup>th</sup> with a retreat. Weekly classes for PLTI and CLTI will begin on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. For more information on this training, please visit: <https://ctcwcs.com/parent-leadership-training-institute/> Donna K. shared that Bristol continues to be represented at the CT Children’s Collective. The new logo was unveiled and fliers and buttons were shared. Coming soon will be another avenue for people to connect to Bristol services through the designated website.

**Caplan Grant:** A conference call with Donna O., Mary Alice and Dawn was recently held. It was decided that the United Way would be the fiduciary for the grant. A final meeting is scheduled for Friday from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Dr. Bartles assisted Dawn with medical “lingo” and data. Everything is on target for the submittal of the Caplan Grant letter due 1/31/20.

**Sparkler Grant:** The “Sparkler” app is designed to help promote children’s healthy child development. Both the Family Resource Center and Parent & Child Center are doing well reaching out to parents. The Parent and Child Center reported that parents, especially those with children with special needs, are finding the app useful in opening up conversations with the pediatrician. It has also helped parents in understanding the smaller milestones (larger ones being walking, talking, etc.) that children reach. Parents will receive useful tips through their mobile devices and the opportunity to meet with program staff. UWWCC is still waiting on funding to support stipends to be given to participating parents.

**Subcommittees:**

**Infant & Toddler** – The committee did not meet in December. The committee may begin meeting together with Phase II members beginning in February.

**Health** – The committee met yesterday. Sanitarians continue hand washing programs with preschoolers. All of the public preschools have been visited and private preschool programming has begun. DPH has reported an increase in mumps in CT. No reports in Bristol schools as of yet. The MMR includes vaccination for mumps and has an 80% efficacy. Committee also discussed a study on preschool children and sugary drinks that was completed by the Rood Center in New Haven. Bristol may decide on a campaign focused on sugary drinks, similar to “Rethink your Drink”. All Pre K students enrolled in Connecticut Schools were required to have the flu vaccination by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. The committee is also continuing discussion with the Park and Rec department around “Park Prescriptions”. All preschools are doing well with a small percentage of children who are still not in compliance and not allowed back until their vaccine is received (If they are receiving it for the first time, they must receive two doses separated by at least 28 days to be proper immunized).

**Transition to Kindergarten (T/K)** – At the next meeting, “One Night, One Purpose” date will be decided. The program will continue with a few modifications/tweaks using feedback from administrators, teachers and parents. The committee is working on a display of the folder for all sites so that parents know what is in the

folders received at registration. Folders are anticipated to be ready for April 1. Case Conference Committee is moving forward and has plans to meet monthly.

**Prenatal to Birth Work:** The committee will meet on Jan 21 The Town City Clerk/Library partnership where children who have a new baby in 2020 will receive a ticket for a free book (I Love You Like Sunshine).

**Community Sharing/Upcoming Events/Meetings:**

**Parent & Child Center:** Cooking classes resume this Saturday (1/11). This weekend, parents and children will be making breakfast bars with foods available through WIC, etc.

Side Note: Shoprite has a dietician back in the store.

**Library:** The January calendar is posted on the website and on Facebook. January through March Sunday library hours have begun. Monday the Library begins a “winter reading program”.

**UW:** The VITA program will open for families soon. Materials will be available at the next BECA meeting.

**WIC** – WIC Shopper is available and ongoing.

**Main Street Community Foundation:** Available Grants are available on the website. Applicants must reach out to Mindy or Kate for a screening prior to submittal. Applicants who received funding for two years in a row must take a year off. Additionally, scholarships will be open in March. Scholarships are available for not only high school seniors. Full list and requirements can also be found on the website.

**Health Dept.–** It is still not too late to get your flu shot.

**Next meeting February 5, 2020 - 11:00 Rm 36 @ BOE 129 Church Street**