

January 8, 2020

The regular meeting of the School Readiness Council was held on January 8, 2020 @ 12:17 p.m. @ the BOE auditorium, 129 Church Street. **Present:** Donna Osuch (Co-Chair) Azra Redzic (Co-Chair) ,Kristen Peck, Catherine Plourde, Karen Lombardi, , Pam Testa, , Maureen Eaton, , Linda Rich , Cecilia Garay, Donna Koser ,Valerie Pelletier, ,Peter Kelley, Amanda Sawyer, Valerie Toner, Alyssa McGhee, , Brenda Moore ,Ronetta Stokes , **Absent** Joyce Voisine, Jennifer St. John , Susan Adeife Lee

1. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR SCHOOL READINESS COUNCIL MEETING Minutes held on December 4,2019** by a motion of School Readiness Council member Kristen Peck and seconded, it was unanimously vote to: approve the minutes of the regular School Readiness Council meeting of December 4,2019

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Program Quality-** Meeting held December 10, 2019- Classroom Observations have been continued by CREC, and also by Program's paid consultants. All SR Programs are in compliance with budget review .Next meeting January 14, 2020 @ 9:00 IN-MEL 1 Pleasant Street.
- **Health Committee-** - Meeting held January 7,2020 @ Senior Center -240 Stafford Ave @ 1:00 BBHD did handwashing training for 280 BOE pre-K students and will continue working with community programs. Flu shot requirement for preschool children before 12/31/19 has kept few students from attending school. Next meeting February 4, 2020 @1:00 Beal's Senior Center 240 Stafford Ave Rm 100
- **Governance Committee-** No Report
- **Community Outreach-** United Way received funding for the Parent Leadership Training Institute -20 week course that enables parents to become leading advocates for children. 15 parents have signed up- program starts Saturday January 11,2020
- **Transition to Kindergarten Committee-** Meeting held December 9, 2019 3:45 p.m. at South Side School. Case Consultant Committee will start January 16, 2020- with area ECE specialists. Kristen Peck and Mary-Alice Petrucelli-Timek will facilitate group – which will meet on the third Thursday of the month @ 3:45-4:45 @ BEC Center. Transition to Kindergarten timelines have been set and process will start January 2020. Next meeting date is January 13,2020 3:30-4:30 @ South Side School-21 Tuttle Rd Conference Room
- **Infant and Toddler Committee-** No Meeting held in December. Next meeting to be held January 28, 2020 @ 12:00-1:00 at BPCCC 291 Burlington Ave site.

3. SCHOOL READINESS GRANT MANAGER REPORT

- OEC –CT has received a \$27 million grant from Federal Government to enhance Early Childhood Development.
- We have invited OEC Commissioner Beth Bye to visit Bristol.
- OEC next mandated meeting will be February 6,2020 in Hartford

Local- the City Budget

- **Local- presentation of the School Readiness City Budget**

Budget was presented that showed no increase to the City of Bristol. The budget requests \$25,000 – as required by legislation for the city to receive \$100,000 in administrative costs. A motion was made by Ronetta Stokes and seconded to accept the budget as presented. It was unanimously vote to accept the budget as presented

4. QUALITY ENHANCEMENT REPORT

- The Quality Enhancement Grant is continually being dispersed to vendors.

5. MONITORING VISIT REPORT

- Financial Reports 100% completed and Programs are in compliance
- Bristol Preschool Child Care Center has served 122 FD/FY students in December
- Imagine Nation Museum of Early Learning 119 FD/FY students in December
- Board of Education is currently serving 146 PD/PY students in December

6. RESIGNATIONS

None

7. APPOINTMENTS

None

8. OLD BUSINESS

Update - Early Learning-A PET Project Endowment preliminary end of year (2nd year) raised \$34,327.56

9. NEW BUSINESS

No Report

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 1:11

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary-Alice Petrucelli-Timek

School Readiness Grant Manager

Companion Guide to the School Readiness January 8, 2020

Community Outreach: Donna Koser reported on: 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 11th with a retreat. Weekly classes for PLTI and CLTI will begin on Monday, January 13th. For more information on this training, please visit: <https://ctcwcs.com/parent-leadership-traininginstitute/>

15 parents have signed up to take this class

Caplan Grant: D. Ledger has drafted an amazing letter of intent for the Caplan Grant. The committee will finalize the letter in the next scheduled meeting on January 17th 12:00 @BPCCC 291 Burlington Ave site

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. Community assistance is needed to promote this service. Parents will receive useful tips through their mobile devices and the opportunity to meet with program staff. Once funding is received, stipends will be given to participating parents.

Infant & Toddler – No meeting in December. Next meeting date is January 28th 12:00-1:00 @ BPCCC-291 Burlington Ave site

Program Quality – Maureen Eaton reported Committee met on December 10th- discussion that SR Grant 2nd year of grant (July 2020-June 2021-) will focus on SRC By-Laws and Policies. They also look at Parent Handbooks of Programs and make sure they are in compliance with the SR Council's Policies and procedures.

Director's Forum will be held January 10th to focus on Transition to Kindergarten issues and kick start the Case Conference Committee which is starting January 16th.

Discussions starting on the ECE Conference which will be held in August.

Health Cathy Plourde reported -It is a good idea to get your Flu vaccine. Type A Flu is currently being seen. All Pre K students enrolled in Connecticut Schools are required to have the flu vaccination by Dec. 31st. If they are receiving it for the first time, they must receive two doses separated by at least 28 days to be proper immunized. The BOE and SR community programs reported few students have been and prohibited from returning to Programs in January for not complying with Flu vaccination requirement.

Report from the RUDE Center- out of Yale regarding how sugary drinks are impacting young children. Committee will review research and promote the Re-Think Your drink program.

Governance Committee— **Linda Rich reported we** have to be reminded that By-Laws will be reviewed this year before May 2020

Transition to Kindergarten (T/K) – Donna Osuch A Director's Forum will be held in January to discuss Transition to Kindergarten initiatives including Early Notifications, Case Consultant Committee, Transition to Kindergarten at local schools for children without IEP but may need additional help in transition and the Kick Start to Kindergarten Summer Program. The time lines for T/K for 2020 will also be shared. Consultation Committee will start on Thursday, January 16 2020. The meeting will be at

from 3:30 to 4:45 at BECC. Communication between providers will help in providing proper intervention, strategies and support for children in the community. Park and Rec has agreed to partner for a Kick Start to Kindergarten program for those who are not eligible for the Board of Education program. One Night, One Purpose date will be set at the next program.

Prenatal to Birth Work: It is official “A New Book for Your New Bristol Baby” has been launched January 1, 2020 A city letter will be given to parents who give birth in Bristol. Each new child/parent will receive a card to be turned into the library staff to receive a copy of “I Love You Like Sunshine” book. “Polar Express” was held on December 11th at the Bristol Public Library. 202 participants attended Bristol Walmart sponsored the bells, cookies and hot cocoa. Conductors and Mr. & Mrs. Claus were there. Kids in the Middle students helped with a variety of tasks. Park and Rec had e train rides available the Sat. and Sun following the event.

Discussion regarding the City Budget and Goals for the SRC

The budget will be submitted as the same level of last year- \$25,000. This amount is required for the City to receive the \$100,000 Administrative funds

Suggestions for our long term goals

How different Committees apply for and receive grants to follow their goals

Health awareness- what is being done in our community regarding hand held devices and how this impacts children brain development, eye sight and behaviors.

Suggestions to help community programs: Turn over and staff burnout is getting more pronounced.

What can we do to help? Have the city recognize – a community Early Childhood teacher of the year- Center-based program?

What do these teachers need? More time off? More money? Acknowledgement?

Community Sharing/Upcoming Events/Meetings:

BOE- Kristen Peck reported BOE has hired a part-time Social Emotional Coordinator- to start January 21st. She will be housed at South Side School and be available for SR Programs too. Rachel will meet the Providers at the January 24th Provider’s meeting.

Parent & Child Center: Spring Calendar is currently advertised

Imagine Nation- Museum of Early Learning- New theater Program is being done (grant funded) Author will work with students see how plays are developed- costumes/ stage- this will be the presentation at the Art show in May

Library: Sunday Hours January/February and March time 1-5

Winter Reading Program

United Way- The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)- will be starting January 25th- Tuesday and Saturdays @ United Way- appointments are needed (Must make less than \$56,000 per year)

BECA- PLTI- Parent Leadership Training Institute- still taking applications up until Friday January 10th-

BBHD- there is an advisory in Ct regarding mumps- presently there are no cases of mumps in Bristol schools – but surrounding towns have experienced a few cases.

FRC- In the Zone- a boy's group for 5th graders (Men's and Boys fund)

Best Self- for girls in transition (6th and 8th grade)

Raising Readers- parent's class- invite parents of children struggling – 6 week course and 2 workshops for parents

Spanish speaking support group at Greene Hills

Special Needs Parent group