



November 6, 2019

11:00-12:00

Bristol Board of Education Room – Room #36

Members Present: Maureen Eaton, Cecelia Garay, Linda Ivey, Kate Kerchaert, Lauren Kittle, Donna Koser, Karen Lombardi, Donna Osuch, Catherine Plourde, Tina Rodriguez, Rebecca Rossi & Melissa Volpe

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 submitted a grant for the Parent Leadership Training Institute(PLTI) and the Children’s Leadership Training Institute (ages 4 and older). For more information on this training, please visit: <https://ctcwcs.com/parent-leadership-training-institute/>. Donna asked for members to email her if there were any Friday facts that they wanted posted for December. November facts are “The ABC’s of School Readiness” and Hand Washing. The Appetite for Reading volunteers met last month and a few have shown interest in helping at events. Appetite for Reading books will be available at the Polar Express (Phase II Literacy) event.

Caplan Grant: The committee met last month and will meet again on Friday, November 8 at noon. The focus for the grant has changed from Trauma to Behavioral Challenges. Dawn Ledger has agreed to write the proposal.

Sparkler Grant: The “Sparkler” app is designed to help promote children’s healthy child development. Both the Family Resource Center and Parent & Child Center staff received an orientation and are beginning the initiative in their respective programs. 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.

Subcommittees:

Infant & Toddler – The committee met last month and discussed changing tables in both the men and women bathrooms. The committee is happy to report that many municipal bathrooms do have them installed. Discussion has been ongoing around how to help businesses become a friendly safe environment for breastfeeding moms. The committee is also looking an ordinance shared by a member of the Public Health Dept and ways to modify/improve to meet the needs of Bristol. More research is needed. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with Phase II.

Health – The committee met this past Monday. A survey was conducted at the Spooktacular event held on 10/26 where 197 parents completed a survey. Data may assist the Caplan Grant committee and inform the direction of the Health committee moving forward. Additional discussion was around the dangers of Vaping and E-Cigarettes and the importance of hand washing. All members were encouraged to get their flu shot.

Transition to Kindergarten (T/K) – 95% of the survey respondents reported that “One Night One Purpose” was meaningful. The committee is waiting for additional surveys to be returned and will analyze the results. A few of the areas resulted in extensive discussion and possible strategies to address the screen time allowed for young children and the possible behavioral challenges that have arisen.

Prenatal to Birth Work: Phase II “Bristol Babies Bridge to Literacy” focuses on birth to age 2. The committee The committee is moving forward with the city letter to parents who give birth in Bristol. A donation request to the Friends of the Bristol Public Library is still waiting approval. If approved, parents will receive a card to be turned into the library staff to receive a copy of “I Love You Like Sunshine” book. The next event will be a Literacy Night with a theme of the “Polar Express” being held on December 11th (12/12 snow date) at the Bristol Public Library. Bristol Walmart is sponsoring the bells, cookies and hot cocoa. Conductors and Mr. &

Mrs. Claus have been secured. Park and Rec will also have train rides available the Sat. and Sun following the event.

Community Sharing/Upcoming Events/Meetings:

Parent & Child Center: Potty Training class will be held on Nov. 19th. This class is appropriate for parents with children who are showing signs/interest and children who are a challenge to potty train. Dad's and Mums Groups are continuing to meet monthly and are open to anyone. Pictures with Santa has been scheduled for Dec. 17th.

Hartford Healthcare – October was a busy month with Breast Cancer Awareness. Nov and December will be dedicated to paperwork catchup and planning.

Child First – All referrals can be made to Tracy Krasinski at (860) 793-4221. There is no cost to to the caregiver to receive home visits.

BBHD – PSA – get your flu shot.

WIC – Thanksgiving baskets. 180 large grocery bags and a gift card for a turkey will be given out to Bristol families.

UW – United Way just finished the “Stock our Shelters” food drive in partnership with the City, Schools, Post Office and other groups. Joy of Sharing food drop off will be November 13 and 14 and toys will be Dec. 3 and 4. All agencies should have already signed up with UW. If not, members were encouraged to do so ASAP.

Next meeting December 4, 2019 - 11:00 Rm 36 @ BOE 129 Church Street