

# Lisbon School Readiness Council

## Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2021 (via Zoom)

**Present:** Scott Trepanier, Sally Keating, Brian Apperson, Kathy Snyder, Cindy Schofield, Rebecca Overholt, Theresa Svab, Sarah Luiz, Rebecca Jusseaume, Patrick McCormack, Jody Lefkowitz, Terry Surprenant,

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:50 AM. Terry Surprenant, Liaison facilitated the meeting.

**Introductions:** Members of the Council introduced themselves and described their roles. Terry introduced herself and is transitioning into her role as the new Liaison/Monitor for this district. Terry has 30 years of experience in early childhood education. She is a certified teacher and used to be a SR Program Director. She has worked as an educational consultant, trainer, coach and monitor. Terry has worked in higher education; preparing pre-service teachers for the past 12 years, but recently returned to consulting as an EASTCONN employee.

**Approval of Minutes:** Sally moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting; Scott seconded the motion. All members voted to approve (with the exception of Patrick who abstained because he was not at that meeting). The minutes were approved.

### Monitoring:

- Terry has reviewed notes from Cheryl's monitoring last year.
- Terry will send some dates for late October/Early Nov. to Kathy, Scott, Rebecca, Cindy, Courtney and Theresa for her first monitoring visit which will be conducted in-person.

**School Readiness:** NAEYC reaccreditation is something that will be a focus this year. Scott shared that they received the AQIS grant for support. Sheri Lambert and Cheryl LaMothe who are EASTCONN staff will be doing that work. Terry clarified that she does not specialize in this area but will defer to them on matters related to accreditation. In addition to their AQIS support, Sheri and Cheryl have office hours if questions arise:

- Sheri [SLambert@eastconn.org](mailto:SLambert@eastconn.org) held on Tuesdays from 9:00-1
- Cheryl [CLamothe@eastconn.org](mailto:CLamothe@eastconn.org) held on Mondays from 2:00-4.

There was a fee that was paid last year to NAEYC and Scott had been told that Lisbon would be getting reimbursed for that. Terry inquired about it and Sheri said she could follow-up.

Scott will be replacing Sally in the role of McKinney-Vento Liaison. Terry explained that Sally doesn't need to attend the meetings but as Superintendent has a crucial role on the Council and may appoint a Designee to participate in her place. *(For more information about Council membership and participation: [https://www.ctoec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/GP\\_C-01\\_School-Readiness-Council-Membership-Responsibilities-and-Role-of-the-Liaison-2020-05.pdf](https://www.ctoec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/GP_C-01_School-Readiness-Council-Membership-Responsibilities-and-Role-of-the-Liaison-2020-05.pdf))* There is a new rule that went into effect this summer – the Co-Chairs will be elected by

the Council (not appointed) moving forward. Terry shared that the OEC will be hosting a virtual orientation for Co-Chairs next week. (Wednesday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 – 3:00).

Terry inquired about how the council makes their meetings available to the public. She sent the Agenda for this meeting to the town clerk. Scott said they can add it to their school website and that Megan Jenkins, Assistant Principal manages the website. Terry will send Agendas and Meeting Minutes to her attention moving forward.

Terry inquired about Quality Enhancement funds. Sally said that's it will be used for resources and supplies for children and that the money hasn't been expended yet this year.

### **Coming Events/News/Updates:**

*Adult Ed:* Jody shared that Adult Ed is up and running in-person at various sites. They also have been offering remote learning. Are waiting to hear on some grants; one is for Families Learning English (an after-school program offered at schools in Norwich and Madonna Place. They have provided Chrome Books and remote participation as well.) Are running a remote NEDP high school diploma program. About to launch a citizenship class. Hoping to offer a CNA and manufacturing class for advanced ESL in January. Enrollment is continuous and business is booming.

*Preschool classroom:* Rebecca O. shared on behalf of herself and Courtney Kinmonth that they are going on a walking field trip to the fire house today as part of fire prevention week. She described that the children are comfortable in their routines now and are excited to come to school. Terry commented that the monthly report for September shows that the classrooms are at full-enrollment.

*Health:* Theresa shared that she has all the updated health assessment records for preschoolers. Kathy Edmond helped with getting parent sections filled out this summer so those are nearly complete. A reminder will be going out soon regarding the flu shot which is required for preschoolers.

*Library* Rebecca shared that information was sent to both schools about toddler programs that are starting soon for children ages 2 – 4. They also have adult programs already starting up. They are working on getting STEM kits that they would like to promote through the school. These are in addition to the book extension kits. The new kits will be teaching math and science. If anyone has any ideas about how best to present them to families, please email Rebecca. For person activities, the library is limiting groups to 10 people and they will be asked to wear masks.

*McKinney-Vento:* Nothing to report.

*Fiscal:* Cindy is new to this position. She will be getting trained on monthly reporting. Terry offered to send the submission schedule to her directly.

*Lisbon School:* Brian shared that it's fire-prevention week and there are activities happening for preschool through grade 5. Looking for more ways to get back to normal. PBIS Committee is

working on strategies around expectations and rewards for kids and building back up that work that has been impacted by some of the restrictions. Goal is trying to make things feel as normal as possible.

*Dept. of Health:* Patrick shared that vaccines for children ages 5 – 11 should be available soon. It will likely be the Pfizer 2-dose series. Many parents prefer going to their own physician to get those rather than a clinic setting. There will be an option to give the flu shot along with the Covid vaccine. The Health Department is also rolling out adult flu vaccines. Covid vaccine boosters: first clinic will be Thursday from 4 – 5:30 at the Senior Center in Norwich. He and Theresa have been in touch when there are cases. He expressed that the schools have done an incredible job of following up and dealing with anxious families. The good news is that numbers are down the last couple weeks. The DDH follows positive cases 18 and under. If schools don't hear from him, that's good news. Testing schedules are posted. Lines at testing sites are getting longer since testing mandates have gone into effect. Insurance companies will only cover a limited number of tests through private insurance, then people have to go to state sites. He recommended to let staff know to print forms in advance and try to get to testing sites early.

**Meeting Schedule:** All meetings are on Thursdays and begin at 8:45 AM. The next meeting, on **November 4**, will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Location of remaining meetings, January 13, March 10, and May 5, to be determined.

**Adjournment:** There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terry Surprenant  
SR Liaison