

Lisbon School Readiness Council

Meeting Minutes

Date:11/14/2024

Present: Paula Gooslin, Kathy Snyder, Janine Sullivan, Courtney Kinmonth, Becky Jusseume, Theresa Svab, Jonathan Paradis

Parents: N/A

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:50 am by Co-Chair Kathy Snyder who also facilitated the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Kathy moved to approve the minutes from the September 12,2024 meeting Courtney and is seconded by Janine . All members approved.

Update on Policy Handbook: Janine is continuing to update the policy handbook.

Council Membership: The council reviewed current membership. The council spoke about adding business members to join the council and also reaching out to a few members who have been active.

Budget Updates: Jonathan stated that the program is on budget at this point. He did ask about drawdowns and changes to the budgets. Paula stated that drawdowns are available and changes to the budget do need to be spoken about with Janine and reviewed with the council. Paula also reminded the council the importance of entering monthly reports into ECE reporters not only is it a requirement of the grant but also allows the program to know how much money is available if the program was not fully utilizing spots in the program.

OEC Updates: Paula shared information about the blue ribbon panel and the hope of Early Start Connecticut <https://www.ctoec.org/how-early-start-works/>. Paula highlighted the response to community needs, and funding available to family child care in the area. The program spoke about the current model of two am classes and two pm classes and spoke about the possibility of adding a 3rd full day program or moving one of the half day classrooms to a full day. Paula encouraged the program to reach out to a few surrounding schools to see which model they are using and what might work for them. Looking at the child care needs of the community is also meeting one of the eleven quality components of the grant and can truly benefit families in the community.

Monitoring visit: I had the joy of observing in Ms. Prosser's Classroom on 10/9/24. The staff did a wonderful meeting the needs of the children and engaging them in a wide range of activities. Paula also reviewed the learning experience plans for both classrooms. Earlier this morning Paula shared that she had a chance to observe morning arrival in Ms. Kinmonth's classroom and stated that the children have a great sense of the routine.

Quality Components: Paula spoke about the 11 quality components that the grant requires the program to meet. **Nutrition**

One of the quality components of the grant is looking at nutrition needs of the children enrolled in the program. The program encourages families to send in healthy meal choices for children. One way that we can do this is by sending home a nutritional survey to families. The surveys were sent home at the beginning of the school year in the registration packet. It is a recommendation for staff to review and to please follow up with any families that may be in need of food assistance and connect them to services that are provided from the school and communities.

- **Coming Events/News/Updates:**

Adult Education: No update at this time.

School Nurse: Theresa shared with the council that the Lion's Club has come to the school to complete vision screenings for children from preschool to 5th grade. Referrals will be sent home at the end of week to families. Thersa is hoping to reach out to Wal-Mart eye care to help families with glasses. Hearing screenings are going on right now and should be done sometime next week. Flu shot reminders have been sent out to families Today to school is taking part in world diabetes awareness day by wearing blue. Uncas Health was able to set up a table at an open house and was a great success with both children and families. They hope to do this again next year.

Town Library: Becky shared that library just switched emails and sent a sign up sheet for people who would like to be on the email list. The library is adding some new programs

Legos on Thursday 12:30-6:00

Baby & Me November 26th

Open storytime till November 26th and will start a new session after the holidays

Wee Play on Tuesdays

2nd Saturday Storytimes @10:30 with Ms. Brown

Dino-v-ber is taking place now all around the library designed for children and families to learn about the library.

Through the Power of Together organization the program received a donation of \$28,000 and the money was used to create a sensory area for children in the library. Some of the funds also went to creating a tween area . They program is hoping to partner with Norwich Adult Education to add an ESL class. The library also shared on November 19th they will have a performance with the Griswold chamber choir. Flyers will be distributed shortly.

Classroom Teachers: Courtney shared with the council that the classrooms attended a field trip to Holmberg orchards. The children and families had a tour of the grounds and were able to observe the whole process of the orchard. Right now children are working on problem solving skills and just enjoyed spirit week.

Lisbon Schools: Janine shared with the council that parent conferences are on December 6th. The school has added an ADA Walkway and the school will be starting to plan for next school year's budget shortly.

Health Department: No updates at this time. Patrick was unable to attend

McKinney -Vento: No updates at this time.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 am. Thank you all for attending.

Respectfully Submitted

Paula Gooslin

SR. Liaison

These minutes are unofficial until approved at the next School Readiness Council Meeting