

RECEIVED

2019 JAN 23 A 8: 59

Branford School Readiness Council Meeting
January 18, 2019

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

Present: Dale Izzo, Lauren Skultety, Robin Comey, Ginger Vickstrom, Carole Weinberg and Jamie Cosgrove.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion (Jamie Cosgrove): to approve the minutes from October 16, 2018 as presented. Seconded: Dale Izzo Motion passed

SR updates-Liaison report:

- The grant package for FY 2019-20 is due out in February.
- The grant requires outreach to increase the number of SR program providers. Carole will send a letter inviting community preschool directors to a meeting to discuss becoming an SR program provider.
- A SR Utilization Space Survey from OEC was completed and submitted in November 2018. Requested an additional 5 slots. If approved, these slots would be allocated to BELC.
- Program payments for child slots to BELC and stipend to SR Liaison are now paid monthly. FRC has regular access to draw down funds through BPS.
- Some OEC General Policies for SR and state funded programs are in process of being updated. Will advise SRC when received and update SR Council policy and procedures as needed.
- The SR Wait List has a total of 22 children on it: 9 children are eligible right now and 13 children are not yet eligible.
- Pre-K – Kindergarten transition was discussed. Lauren reported that the public school has a pre-K-Kgt. Transition Team that meets weekly. Carole will follow up with Lauren on ways in which SR programs and community pre-K programs can participate as all pre-k programs in Branford have young children who will be transitioning into BPS kindergarten.

Old Business:

- Parent representative vacancy: two moms from Tisko are interest in being on the council as parent representatives. Dale has worked with both of these women on projects for the town and they are both very involved in projects for young children. Motion (Jamie Cosgrove): to approve Vanessa Redd and Rachel Kalman as parent representatives on the SRC. Seconded: Robin Comey. Motion passed
- Updates on the SR policy and procedures will be discussed next month. A copy of the Draft was given to each member present.
- Data tracking was table until next month because the person reporting this information was not in attendance this month.

Committee Reports:

- Robin spoke about the enthusiastically received presentation of Dr. Craig Bailey at the BECC Roundtable in October. Craig presented on The RULER Approach

developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. Robin reported that Craig has received a grant to study the effectiveness of RULER in preschool classrooms and has invited Branford preschools to participate at no cost to them. Robin explained that this is a three year controlled study whereby some pre-k programs will get the full program and some programs will not. But, that by year two all programs will receive full training, program materials and guidance to implement the full program. The study is for community based preschools and is not open to public school preschools. Robin arranged for a visit to the Friends Center for Children in New Haven for Branford ECE program director's and staff to see the RULER method in action. Carole went on this visit and reported how impressed she was with the program and thanked Robin for arranging the visit. Dr. Bailey will be at the beginning of the next BECC Roundtable for a short talk on the study opportunity prior to the scheduled presentation by Frank Dormer on January 22nd.

- Robin spoke about a Forum they would like to schedule for the Week of the Young Child. The Council needs to decide if they want to partner with Robin on this event. Lack of available funds is the biggest problem. It would help if we could secure donated space and refreshments. The focus would be parent, teacher workshops-possibly discussing special needs, best practices. Robin feels the biggest expenses would be the speaker. She has applied for a grant from the Guilford Savings Bank for \$1,000 but she has not heard back yet. Carole has a call into United Way and is also waiting for a call back. Jamie suggested we create our budget and then see what we can secure. The event is planned for 4/27/19, 9-2.

New Business:

- Dale spoke about the town 375th celebration and has suggested that all communication also have celebration logo on it as well as our own.

Public Comment: none

Adjournment:

Motion (Jaimie Cosgrove): to adjourn at 10:27.

Seconded: Lauren Skultety

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger Vickstrom
Carole Weisberg