

Branford School Readiness Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2021

Board Members Present are in Bold: Dale Izzo, Carole Weisberg, Carly Lemire, Robyn Comey, Jamie Cosgorove, Diane Pappacoda, Stephanie Linke, Michele Krumenacker, Rachel Kalman, Lauren Skultery, Vanessa Fleming-Reid

A the meeting was called to order at 9:37AM by Chair Dale Izzo

A motion was made to accept the Meeting Minutes from November 20, 2020.

1st: Robin Comey

2nd: Carly Lemire

SR Liaison Report –

Carole reported on the OEC Statewide School Readiness meeting:

- Full allocation for continues for SR programs based on FY21 approved spaces. Must be providing services on-site, hybrid or remote. Programs can't be completely shut down for month.
- Monthly reports are important for data collection. Need to show services are being provided.
- SR Grant FY22 will be submitted through Qualtrix as usual. Next year it is expected to be accessed through the eGMS system.
 - This is a continuation year and so the process will be similar to FY21.
 - Existing programs will not need to go through the full RFP process. There is no new funding as of now.
 - QE grants can be a continuation, as well, if going with the same vendor and same services.
 - Contact information will require a secondary contact person for programs.
 - Budgets must be approved in eGMS systems in order for OEC to release funds – must reach LEA approval status. Councils can request access for Liaison. Drawdowns can only be from approved status.
- CCAC Registry – programs are expected to maintain their profiles, upload documents including NAEYC reports, and update staff, etc. Once documents are uploaded they are reviewed by OEC staff.
- Monitoring during COVID – off-site desk monitoring is allowed such as reviewing registry, QSM staff, accreditation, etc. and conducting virtual check-ins with programs.
- The ECIS system is no longer used. OEC is transitioning to ECE Reporter and this is where programs are entering information on enrolled children and related data.

Discussion of eGMS and SR Grant: Discussion about approvals in eGMS on district level was discussed. There was delay in approval of Branford SR program funds, and Branford QE funds had not been approved as of the meeting, but was expected soon. Clarification was noted that the SR Grant Budget is approved by the SR Council (including Hamlet and Jamie's sign-off) when the grant is submitted. The approvals in eGMS are not approvals of the dollars, but approvals that all was entered correctly and that funds are able to be released by CT-OEC. Dale suggested a meeting with Hamlet and Jamie and Branford's fiscal contact to discuss process. It was suggested that the SR Council appoint either Dale or Carole to have access to the eGMS system.

School/Community Reports: Robin updated the council on BECC and that she has stepped back. She is hoping that the SR council will be able to pick up some of the important work that BECC has done in the past.

New Business: Preschool Fair: there was discussion about holding the Preschool Fair again this year, but virtually. A subcommittee was formed and will report back to the council at the February meeting.

Public Comment: None

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

1st: Carly Lemire 2ndL Robin Comey

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45AM