

Branford School Readiness Council Meeting  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
August 20, 2021

**Board Members Present are in Bold: Dale Izzo, Carole Weisberg, Carly Lemire, Robin Comey, James Cosgrove, Diane Pappacoda, Stephanie Linke, Rachel Kalman, Lauren Skultery, Vanessa Fleming-Redd**

The meeting was called to order at 9:39 AM by Chair Dale Izzo

**1. Approval of meeting minutes:**

- a. A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes from 01/15/2021 with a correction on Robin's name  
1<sup>st</sup>: Robin Comey      2<sup>nd</sup>: Rachel Kalman      motion carries
- b. A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes from 02/19/2021 with a correction on Robin's name  
1<sup>st</sup>: Robin Comey      2<sup>nd</sup>: Vanessa Fleming-Redd      motion carries
- c. A motion was made to accept the special meeting minutes from 04/26/2021 with corrections to Robin and Vanessa's names and that Robin Comey was present at the meeting.  
1<sup>st</sup>: Vanessa Fleming-Redd      2<sup>nd</sup>: Rachel Kalman      motion carries
- d. A motion was made to accept the special meeting minutes from 06/24/2021 with corrections to Robin and Vanessa's names.  
1<sup>st</sup>: Vanessa Fleming-Redd      2<sup>nd</sup>: Robin Comey      motion carries

**2. SR Liaison Report:**

Carole gave an overview of the grant status. Final approval in the State's eGrants Managements Systems has been done. We have one edit to make with the number of slots that each program has and indicate that they are full day programs. The supplemental funding in the amount of \$2811.00 has not been released yet by the state. As part of the continued COVID relief funding support, the OEC will be funding a percentage of the parent's fees portion of tuition for July and August 2021 for state funded programs. The programs will receive the reimbursement funding directly.

The governor released yesterday a vaccine mandate for all state employees and state hospital workers to be vaccinated by September 27th, and that K-12 school teachers and staff and child care teachers and staff must also be vaccinated by Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> or, if not vaccinated, be required to have weekly testing. Masks will be required to be worn by staff and children when returning back to school.

**3. Program Site Updates:**

**FRC:** They are fully enrolled, a new director has been hired and is slated to start in the next couple of weeks. Amanda is currently filling in for the teacher roll.

**BELC:** They are fully enrolled. They are hosting their graduations today and the new school year will begin August 30<sup>th</sup>.

- 4. School/Community Reports:** Robin reported that BECC has engaged a temporary interim Executive Director. BECC held a Director's meeting recently, and identified the biggest challenge facing programs right now is finding and keeping staff.

**5. New Business:**

- A. Council Vacancies:** The council had a discussion about recruitment of members. Council members will be reaching out to community members and will report back next council meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

1<sup>st</sup>: Robin Comey                      2<sup>nd</sup>: James Cosgrove

Motion carries

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM

The next SR Council Meeting is September 17<sup>th</sup>.