

Branford School Readiness Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2021

Council Members Present are in Bold: Dale Izzo, Carole Weisberg, Carly Lemire, Robin Comey, James Cosgrove, Diane Pappacoda, Stephanie Linke, Lauren Skultery, Vanessa Fleming-Redd, Charles Cicarella Kim Cellini, Erin Hearn, James Cosgrove

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM by Chair Dale Izzo

1. Approval of meeting minutes:

A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes from 10/15/2021

1st: James Cosgrove 2nd: Kim Cellini motion carries

2. SR Liaison Report:

a. **Consultant Introduction:** Gladys Deutsch our new SR consultant was introduced to the board and gave an overview of her work experience with Early Childcare. She is the former director of Liala Day Nursey in New Haven, former director of the East haven Family Resource Center,

b. **Liaison Report:**

- a. **QE Grant Update:** Carole reported that she and the Program Directors met via Zoom with ACES BCBA Consultant Kelly Richards. She has begun QE services to the programs to include scheduled observations, feedback and resources for program staff and support/tips for families.
- b. **OEC Training:** OEC provided training for program directors, providers and SR Liaisons on using the Early Childhood Professional Registry. Programs are required to enter current information regarding staff that includes their roles, required training completion and education, etc. In order to monitor requirements are met. SR Liaisons utilize the registry for monitoring by reviewing data on a regular basis.
- c. **Competitive School Readiness (CSR) Liaison's meeting:** The SR Liaison in Naugatuck has reached out the group of CSR Liaisons to meet on a regular basis in order to support each other in our roles. The first meeting was held on November 9th.
- d. **Professional Development opportunity for SR Liaisons:** The SR Liaison from New Britain has reached out with a survey to all liaisons who have Supplemental Administrative Funds earmarked for Liaison PD with the idea of working together to pool resources for wider participation of Liaisons who may not have extra funds (such as Branford).

3. Program Site Updates:

FRC: Kim reported that they have hired a new employee that started yesterday. They have started their self-study for NEAYC so that they can create goals and curriculum.

4. School/Community Reports:

- Dale reported that the Parks and Recreation will be hosting the Holiday Tree Lighting and Parade.
- East Shore District Health shared that they are offering vaccine clinics to school children. Clarification was going to be obtained to see if they were just for Branford students/ residents.

- BECC is doing a community survey to address challenges, services currently being used, what types of families make up our community, what do families need, etc. Anyone who can help with sending out the link to gather data should talk to Kim. They are also offering a 4 week series about Family Engagement.
- Care 4 Kids: Robin gave a report about how the state is looking into ways to improve this program. She asked questions about who was taking Care 4 Kids families and the pros and cons of the program.
- School Based Health: The question came up if this resource would be available for the districts pre-k programs. Charles and Kim will check with central office.

5. Old Business:

- A. **Council Membership Update:** The council continues to reach out to the community to see where we can recruit members.

6. New Business:

- a. Nomination of SR Chair:

A motion was made to have Dale Izzo continue as the SR chair.

1st: Jamie Cosgrove 2nd: Robin Comey passed unanimously

- b. Meeting Schedule: we will be sending out a survey about meeting times and what the board feels about virtual, hybrid or in person meetings.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

1st: James Cosgrove 2nd: Robin Comey

Motion carries

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM