

NOTES

Region 32 Action Council Meeting

Location: Virtual Zoom meeting

Date & Time: April 20th, 2023, 9:00-11:00 am

Members Present: Jim Duggan, Rosemary Pistorius, Rhonda Showers, Mary Self, Chrissy Nojd, Rebecca Graham, Cindi Schimmelpfennig, Sheree Sykes, Pamela Powell, Carolyn Short, Kimberly Erickson, Rachel LaGesse

Members Absent: Amanda Parks, Lovice Brinkman, Christine Johnston, Newcomb Mowrer, Amanda Chorak, Rhonda Pence, Erin Goldenstein, Marquita Cox, Rita Armstrong, Holly Knupp, Theodis Pace

9:03: Welcome, Permission to Record

- Permission to Record was granted.
- Liz welcomed guest, Kimberly Erickson, who filled in for Rebecca Kroiss.

9:05: Community Agreements and Meeting Norms

- No additional Agreements were made to Council.
- Liz briefly discussed State Superintendent, Dr. Sander's, letter on additional funding for PFA. June 14th is the deadline to apply for this new, additional funding.

9:10: Action Council Discussion

- **Discuss Strengths & Needs for our Area**
 - Strengths:
 - Our Area has a lot of available resources for families.
 - We have a good infrastructure for our parent/education programs that work well together.
 - Success of ECACE funds and educating our workforce.
 - Expansion of the LENA program.
 - Support from Erikson Institute and surrounding partners.
 - Needs:
 - Connect our parents to services and awareness of programs.
 - Socialization for parents.
 - Iroquois – lack of knowledge about resources in the community and surrounding areas.
 - Follow up with parents (Parent Café, conferences, etc.)
 - Making LENA programs a norm in all areas.

- Birth to three support - doulas, pregnancy support, lactation group, infant massages, mental health, etc.
 - Physical space.
 - Funds for marketing to introduce parents to programs so they can see what it looks like and activities, making them more likely to attend in person (QR codes, video, etc.).
 - Safe physical places for families and children to play, get help, and see resources.
 - Mental health help for families.
 - The council discussed Theraplay and LENA in detail. The council agreed both resources should be readily available in all districts.
 - Trust and Relationships were common words used throughout our Council meetings. One Council member stated, “People don’t trust organizations anymore.” “People are craving community.” Building trust and relationships in the community is necessary.
- **Discuss and Review our Recommendation Chart**
 - The Council agreed on the following recommendations and will think about any changes or additional recommendations:
 - Physical Space(s) for ECEC classrooms in both counties.
 - More Staff/Workforce in both counties.
 - Mental health services (Staff, Theraplay, Project Sun, etc.)
 - Transportation (personal and school-based – both counties.)
 - Family Center for drop-in services that provides a central hub for information, safe haven space, play, socialization, support, and resources.
 - Central Data Office/Coordinator(s) where all available resources share information, contact, etc., and a central place to access data for families, schools, child care, etc.

10:15: Review Regional Scan/Needs Assessment

- Liz reviewed the Scan to the Action Council with additions and revisions.
- The Council approved the following:
 - FPL 2020 information instead of 2023.
 - Demographic numbers for McKinney-Vento.
 - Slot Gap section
 - Liz asked the Council to prioritize the list for Table X on Scan. The Council agreed to put space and staff as a top priority following hours of operation.
 - It was stated that the indicators for Slot Gap are very similar to our Recommendations.
 - ECEC Programs
 - Reviewed charts, maps, and quote additions.

- Impact of Covid.

10:45: Review Next Meeting Topic: Continued Strengths & Recommendations and Family Council Updates

- Kennilyn updated the Action Council with Family Council updates.
 - Family Council has been reviewing the narrative and Kennilyn shared a Family Council member's quote: "I'm really impressed with how thoroughly this is written and presented."
 - Kennilyn also informed the Action Council that our Family Council felt validated by their work after reading the narrative.
- Liz asked the Council to think before our next meeting where we will continue discussions on Strengths, Needs, and Recommendations. We will also be looking at the Workforce and Parent/Family/Caregiver Engagement.
- Liz gave dates for our upcoming summer meetings, June 22nd. and July 20th. August will be discussed closer to the date.

11:00: Adjourn

Next Meetings:	May 4, 2023	May 25, 2023
	9:00-11:00am	9:00-11:00am
	KCC NEC & Virtual	*In Person @ KCC NEC ideally