



## MEETING NOTES

### **Region 12 Action Council Meeting** **Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 3:30pm-5:00pm**

Staff present: Ann Oswalt, Sophie Kershaw-Patilla

Council Members present: Jennifer Bales, Nicole Gardewine, Courtney Hatcher, Jamia Joyce, Beth Lindemann, Resa Shaner, Arianna Walker, Amy Walters, Samantha Weidner

Council Members absent: Hope Dennis, Lauren McClain, Mary Roy, Alexis Schaich, Tina Staley, Liesl Wingert

#### **3:30 Welcome & Introductions (36 minutes)**

Notes:

- All participants provided introductions and answered the question, “What do you like most about your community?”
- Ann asked Council members if they would like to be featured on the Region 12 Facebook page. Sophie provided more details about what the social media post may include and discussed this as an opportunity to personalize the work the Council is doing.
- Ann reminded members about sharing their stories via the Region 12 website or by contacting the Region 12 staff.
- Ann provided an update on Action Council membership and discussed options for getting other voices involved.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Sophie will include information about the Council member spotlight and story sharing in the meeting notes email.

#### **4:06 Family Council Update (3 minutes)**

Notes: Ann provided an update in Donna’s absence.

- Need representation from Clay and Jasper Counties, as well as more diverse membership from all counties.
- Sophie reminded the Council that meeting notes are posted to the Region 12 website for review.

Decisions made: N/A



Next Steps: Action Council members are asked to continue making Family Council recommendations.

#### **4:09 Data Agreements (31 minutes)**

Notes:

- Ann and Leslie (State Team) have discussed and are finalizing Data Agreements for Region 12 schools, which will be submitted to the Superintendents.
  - Enrollment (availability/utilization)
  - Wait list(s)
  - Transportation availability
  - Support needs of families
- Council discussed Data Agreements for area businesses and business groups.
  - Need to assess future child care needs, how much child care is a barrier to accepting employment, and how much employee absenteeism is due to lack of child care.
  - Much of the current grant funding will expire and child care programs may not be sustainable, so projections need to be included.
- Council discussed the need for parent engagement and awareness campaigns to inform families of resources, services, and guidelines for finding certified child care.
- There is a need to bridge the gap between Pre-K and Kindergarten programming and curriculum.

Decisions made:

- May need to hold Focus Groups and send out surveys to businesses rather than Data Agreements to gather the desired information.

Next Steps:

- Continue thinking about the data or information needed regarding businesses in our Region and how to best gather this information.
- Discuss parent engagement with providers to see what is or isn't working and identify needs.

#### **4:40 Focus Groups and Interviews (7 minutes)**

Notes:

- Focus Groups and Interviews will likely begin in January.



- Council members will not take part in the Focus Groups, but reports and information will be shared with Council members as deemed necessary.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps:

- Ann asked Council members to identify community members or groups that need to be included that are currently not represented in our data or Councils.
- There is also opportunity for the Region 12 staff to reach out to social and civic groups. Ann asked Council members to identify any groups they know of and/or have connections to in their communities.

Follow-up/Next Steps:

- The next meeting will be virtual on Tuesday, December 6. There will only be one meeting in December.
- Next month, the Council will discuss the on-site location for the next quarter of meetings. If Council members have a location available, please let Ann know.