



MEETING NOTES

Region 40 Family Council Meeting

Location: Via Zoom

Date & Time: March 7, 2023, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Council Members present: Kaitlin Borgini, Abby King, Jena Walden, Kelly Ballard, Jessica Tupper, Tracy Clarkson

Council Members absent: Kelsey Deaton, Kassie McEvers, Ashton Peacock, Brittany Peters, Sadie Renken, Stormy Sanders

5:30 pm: Welcome & Workforce for our Region (15 min)

Notes:

- ECEC Landscape: Workforce in our region.

Decisions made:

- See a lot of farm ground, you will see some lower/poverty areas and some very nice areas. Pasture for livestock, only one restaurant and it is usually family owned.

Next Steps:

- The Early Childhood Education and Care workforce consists of professionals, paraprofessionals, and volunteers who promote the healthy growth, development, and learning of young children under age 8.

5:45 pm: ECEC Workforce Licensed Center Directors (15 mins)

Notes:

- Looking at the numbers of total Directors in our Region. There are no Male Directors in our region. We have no diversity. No Bi-Lingual in our region.
- Data resource tools and on-demand foundational training we shared.
- As a parent what is your interaction with the Director of the licensed center?

Decisions made:

- We are a desert for credentials, Illinois College no longer has an early childhood program.
- Contacted me way too much, they were calling parents for every little thing. Parents should trust the educator more where they should be able to handle the day to day. Due to parents not trusting the facility completely.
- Parents should trust the teachers more.
- Pay at childcare center is not as considerable as a teacher.



6:00 pm: Licensed Center Teaching Staff (15 min)

Notes:

- What things stand out to you? 179 Total
- Infant Toddler Credentials in only 7, and 172 do not.

Decisions made:

- High School/GED with 89 individuals.
- Working to pay for childcare. She can not afford to pay for gas, insurance, on the salary with four kids and work out of the home.
- Very few people go beyond an associate degree, due to the increase in salary if the credentials are present.
- Rent and Bills in general have gone up five times and teacher pay hasn't even doubled in the past 50 years.

Next Steps:

- If there was a behavior issue going on, there is no place and or not enough staff to get a break for the child or the teacher.
- Teamwork lacked due to high turnover rate, unable to build trust with students and or parents.
- Majority, of Family Council choice family care for their child.
- Longevity of the staff is important.

6:15 pm: Early Childcare Education Barriers (10 min)

Notes: What are some barriers facing those who want to advance education in ECE?

Decisions made:

- Not being able to have a part time placement in childcare if you don't go to school every day. Centers would rather have a full-time student before a part time.
- Money and time to go to school.
- Pay will not increase with continued education unless they switch jobs (return on investment).
- May not qualify for FASFA.
- The licensing process is too hard to understand, and or takes too long.

6:25 pm: Workforce Continued (5 min)

Notes: What initiatives exist to Support Workforce?

Decisions made:



- Accelerated program (the drawback then it pulls them form the ECEC).
- Licensing navigators that is coming out.

Follow-up/Next Steps:

- The next Family Council meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2023, from 5:00 pm. for our poverty simulation.