



## **AGENDA**

### **Region 26 Family Council Meeting**

**Date & Time: March 22, 2023**

**In attendance: Tori Buckert, Orinda Gillham, Paul Larson, Lacie McGraw, Shannon McKee**

6:00: Welcome/Ice Breaker

**Facilitator(s): Paul Larson, Lacie McGraw, Shannon McKee**

- **Factors of Child Care and How much they affect your decision to send your child there.**
- **Family Council members stated that “its hard enough to find a spot, if it was double the cost of what we have already paid no matter the quality”**
- **Travel-**
  - **We travel 45 minutes each way to go to work most days, on top of traveling 25 minutes to Child Care.**
  - **My husband drives 100 miles each day for work if he has to pick up our child from child care it adds 25 extra miles.**
  - **We are traveling 3 hours for doctors appointments one way to ensure our child is getting the best care, and treatment. We do this because there isn’t a specialist near us and if there was we would be leery of the quality of care and experience.**
- **Support**
  - **We have chosen both child care and dental/medical care based on suggestions from friends and family.**
  - **One Family Council member stated “ Because the wait was years out her doctor said to “wait it out” until they got to school”**
  - **We were on the waitlist for a year before we got an appointment that was booked 10 months out then when we**



were seen by the specialist we were told to follow up in 6 months but the pandemic happened and we are a year and a half past the 6 months.

- **Recommendations.**
  - **Education, not only in what to do or how to do it but also what to do as a substitute if that doesn't work.**
    - **“We get told don't do this or don't do that but we don't get told what to do if those suggestions don't work.**
    - **Parents need practical ways to implement information**
    - **We need to know how to get from here to there**
- **What info is missing?**
  - **Childcare is limited and only one provider was willing to accept my part-time care, but with us working and the distance to go from work to the center would put us past the time of pick up. We had to rely on family because it fit our needs.**
  - **I also had to quit my job to ensure that my child was properly being taken care of.**
    - **I don't know who I'd trust now or where I'd begin.**
    - **A success for our family is I never stopped advocating for my child and pushing for what he needs.**
  - **When I was pregnant before I even told anyone about my pregnancy I was calling childcare centers asking for a spot or to be put on the waitlist. Some waitlists were out two years and some were so long we weren't able to be added.**
    - **Finding childcare after 530 was impossible.**
    - **“let the people around you know that you need child care because they will be the biggest support you have”**
    - **Success- My Child is happy, that's what I like about it.**

Next Meeting: April 10th



Time:6-730pm