



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 3 Action & Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: 05/01/2023, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Council Members Present: Carla Holtz, Megan Harley, Fawn Terwilliger, Kelsey Richardson, Bethany Radcliffe, Sadie Ruholl, Brittany Smith, Alice Hulvey  
Council Members Absent: Paula White, Shannon Gelsinger, Kevin Busher, Natalie Repking, Ashley Harmon, Beth Wise, Jessica Green, Judith Hopkins, Kristen Kelley, Kelsi Thompson, Tessa Phillips, Alicia Logue, Shelby Funneman, Adrienne Beavor

#### 1:00pm: Introductions

#### 1:20pm: Strengths and Needs

Notes:

- Strengths (Jamboard)
  - Small community – chance to get to know one another and form connections
  - KPD – great for families with children of all ages
  - Bond Co Project Parenting
  - KRP Program in Bond Co with great teachers
  - Dedicated People
  - Strong collaboration in Effingham
  - Child care center opening in a business (Effingham)
  - EI resources through the local health department for women and child
  - Local library with free calendar of events for children and families
  - Faith Organizations providing community and family outreach and support
  - Backpack program, coat drives, rotary club, greenville women's alliance
  - Small communities working hard and are dedicated to the issues
- Needs (Jamboard)
  - Trauma informed care
  - Before and after school care (not a day care requiring full tuition)
  - Need more slots to meet the needs of families
  - Lack of education provided to community members about resources



- Staff retention
- High quality child care centers and family care centers
- Administrators with direct experience working with children in an ECEC setting
- Lower cost for childcare for families
- Staff to be compensated appropriately with benefits
- Wrap around community resources
- Jobs not paying a fair wage for parents to afford to work outside of the home and pay for child care
- High education advocacy for the ECEC field
- Food insecurity
- Distance of providers that accept insurance to rural families
- Early childhood mental health services for at-risk students (only one local provider available and they do not accept Medicaid)
- Specialists for children who take Medicaid
- Alternative education options for kids in specialized demographics not available
- No financial support for center staff working with children with special needs. No money to pay for the extra staff needed
  - The State should have a pool of aides that are available to take “assignments” and go where they are needed. This would alleviate the burden of paying an additional salary for child care centers, and have aides available to schools without having to employ them full time

**2:20pm: Pencil Me In**

Notes: mentioned appreciation dinners for councils

Decisions: email invite and RSVP to Council members

**Next Meeting**

Date: TDB