



Family Council All Member Meeting

Family Council Members

Date: October 12, 2023

Attendees

Council members present: Katie Manno, Cassandra Staal, Roberta Johnson, Misti Johnson, Tiffany McSpadden

Council members absent: Krystin Hobbs, Linda Eiland, Megan Burgess, Shalese Bruya

Agenda

1. Introductions/ Icebreaker
 - a. Our new Family and Community Engagement Specialist, Chrystal Anthony- Sims, introduced herself to the present Family Council Members.
 - b. Icebreaker
2. Review the Recommendations chosen.
 - a. The Recommendations are as follows:
 - i. Connect all staff and programs to supports, resources, and professional development.
 - ii. Conduct outreach and promotion to the community for the available ECE C resources and services.
 - iii. Explore opportunities for high schools to participate in the Level 1 ECE resources and services.
 - b. During this meeting, we will only be discussing Recommendation 1.
3. Plan for Family Council Schedule
 - a. October
 - i. October 26th Workgroup Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)
 - b. November
 - i. November 9th Family Council Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)
 - ii. November 30th Workgroup Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)
 - c. December
 - i. December 7th Family Council Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)
 - ii. December 19th Workgroup Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)
 - d. January
 - i. January 11th Family Council Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)
 - ii. January 25th Workgroup Meeting (5:30-7:30pm)



- e. Please refer to the email sent out on October 9th, 2023 from Stephanie with Zoom links for these meetings. All meetings will be held hybrid, unless otherwise noted.
- 4. Recommendation: Connect all staff to support, resources, and professional development.
 - a. Why was this recommendation made?
 - i. There is a shortage of teachers, and teachers who are in the classroom are saying that they need more support.
 - ii. Without staff we will not have classrooms for children to attend.
 - iii. Each child has different needs, meaning that without the resources and professional development provided, it can be difficult to access these needs.
 - iv. Professionals in Early Childhood Education and Care want the support but, they do not know where to find them and they do not have the time to seek them out. It is difficult to take the time during the day, as it shuts down the classroom for the children, and educators need the weekend to recoup their mental health.
 - v. Professionals need ongoing regular professional development that meets their individual needs.
 - b. What data supports the recommendation?
 - i. Quantitative
 - 1. 2020- 861 children three to five with an IEP
 - 2. 2020- 284 children receiving Early Intervention Services
 - 3. 2021 KIDS- only 28% of kindergartners demonstrated readiness in all three areas.
 - 4. 2020- 69 of the 2,780 Kindergarteners in St. Clair County were reported meeting the definition of homelessness.
 - 5. 8,697 of the children under 5 (total: 18,309) are living at or below the 200% Poverty level.
 - ii. Qualitative
 - 1. "I have requirements around curriculum, assessment, screening, family engagement, ratios, special education services, Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ECERS-R), and all the other requirements that my administrator has within the school. These requirements don't always align with each other, and it is hard to determine which is more important. It is exhausting to keep up with everything, especially when you have no planning time." - Early Childhood Provider



2. "My staff is overworked and underpaid. We continue to ask them to do more and more each year. Providing care for children with high needs without the support they need adds stress and causes burnout." - Early Childhood Administrator

5. SMART GOALS

- a. Time ran out, the council will revisit this at the next meeting.

6. Announcements/Questions

- a. Join us at the local Trunk or Treat at Sierra Honda.



Before next meeting...

- Review the Google Drive data and our Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment for Region 50 around staff development.