

Policy Council Minutes

09.05.2019

Voting Members Present: Roberta Braden, Natasha Busch, Angelica Hinklin, Melissa Hodges, Keri Kavouras, Sherri Lafollete, John Lobato, Chelsea Luffman, Shannah Marshall, Katie Musgrove, David Powell, Pamela Rontti, Julie Wilcox

Non-Voting Present: Linda Loret, Casy Ziegler, Lesa Larson, Shanna Rector, Alaina Ryan, Jim Fletcher

Call to Order – Lesa Larson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Changes & Additions to the Agenda: There were no changes to the Agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items: David Powell motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. John Lobato seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Training:

- Bylaws – Bylaws were presented during training in August. Lesa reviewed the Bylaws and answered questions regarding Conflict of Interest.
- Acronyms – an acronym handout was provided to Policy Council members to familiarize them with acronyms frequently used within Heartland Early Education.
- Comprehensive Services – a handout was provided to explain the different components within Heartland Early Education including Disabilities, Education and Child Development, ERSEA, Facilities, Materials and Equipment, Family & Community Engagement, Fiscal, Health Services, Human Resources Management, Mental Health, Nutrition, Program Design and Management, Program Governance, Safety Practices, and Transportation.

Old Business: None

Director Update:

Lesla reported week three of preschool is complete. It has been a good start to the year. Heartland is starting year two of KPREP. KPREP began the school year with three children and they are preparing to enroll four new children. Integrated Preschool is new this year, integrating Head Start classrooms with children with disabilities. Integrated Preschool is a partnership with Heartland, USD#305 and CKCIE.

New Business:

Election of Officers and KHS Representative

- Chairperson - Katie Musgrove nominated herself for Chairperson. Pam Rontti motioned to accept Katie's nomination. Melissa Hodges seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, Katie Musgrove was elected Chairperson.
- Vice Chairperson – Chelsie Luffman and Natasha Busch nominated themselves for Vice Chairperson. Keri Kavouras motioned to accept their nominations and Angelica Hinklin seconded the motion. After vote by secret ballot, Natasha Busch was elected Vice Chairperson.
- Secretary – Chelsie Luffman nominated herself for Secretary. Shanna Marshall motioned to accept her nomination. David Powell seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, Chelsie Luffman was elected Secretary.

- KHSA Rep – David Powell nominated himself to serve as KHSA Rep for Heartland. Chelsea Musgrove motioned to accept David’s nomination for KHSA Rep and Shannah Marshall seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, David Powell will serve as the 2019-20 KHSA Rep. The first meeting is Thursday, October 10th from 9:00am – 3:00pm at the Webster Conference Center in Salina.

Annual Report/PIR Report

Heartland’s Annual Report was provided to the Policy Council. Casy discussed key data within the PIR portion of the Annual Report and answered questions pertaining to the data. The PIR is a report compiled each year to meet Federal requirements.

Parent/Community Member Reports:

Natasha Busch (Martin Luther King) reported two to three year olds and three to five year olds were separated into their own classrooms last year. She feels it has been helpful for her twins to be in the same class. She is happy with Marti Ash, the new FC.

Katie Musgrove (Abilene Head Start) reported her twins are in the same Head Start classroom in Abilene and it is helpful for her family.

Shanna Rector reported integrated classrooms began this fall. Heartland and CKCIE worked together to provide training on curriculum and organization for Integrated Preschool teachers over the summer. This allows students to be in a least restrictive environment and USD#305 is happy to facilitate the program. Keri Kavouras reported her child is in an Integrated Preschool classroom this year and she is seeing benefits.

David Powell reported he is part of Independent Connection. The program advocates for people with disabilities. They provide resource information to help guide families to services. He will provide brochures to Policy Council next month. They are housed inside South and Central High Schools to advocate for students, help them achieve their goals, and give them a voice.

Melissa Hodges reported the Child Care Coalition will present to the City Commission on Monday, September 9th. The Child Care Coalition is an outreach to help support child care workers in our community.

Jim Fletcher reported a need be focused on the upcoming Census. We need to be diligent to make sure people are not afraid to be counted. We need to work as a community to make sure everyone is counted because funding is based on those results for the next 10 years. It affects the programming we can do and the funding we can get. He asked Policy Council to encourage people to be counted because it affects so many things we do in our community. The census is hiring people to work temporarily for the next few years. Immigration status is not a part of the census. Melissa Hodges reported the City of Salina and USD305 will be meeting and working together to start the Census campaign in Salina.

Pamela Rontti reported her child’s kindergarten teacher was excited that she had attended Head Start and had good practices from being in Head Start.

Pamela Rontti motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. Chelsea Luffman seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Alaina Ryan, Administrative Assistant