

# Policy Council Minutes

10.03.2019

**Voting Members Present:** Kim Dykes, Natasha Busch, John Lobato, Emily Ann Morneau, David Powell, Keri Kavouras, Sherri Lafolette, Roberta Braden, Chelsea Luffman, Maria Alonso

**Non-Voting Present:** Linda Lorette, Casy Ziegler, Lesa Larson, Shanna Rector, Alaina Ryan, Jim Fletcher, Katie Musgrove, Mona Olson, Michele Carlson, Amanda Foy, Ashtan Stuart

**Call to Order** – Katie Musgrove called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Changes & Additions to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the Agenda. Adriana Holmes motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Emily Ann Morneau seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Approval of Consent Agenda Items:** David Powell motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Adriana Holmes seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## **Training:**

ACF-IM-HS-19-02 Designation Renewal System Change: CLASS score regulations have changed in regards to grant renewal.

- This NPRM proposes improvements for two of the seven conditions of the DRS: the condition related to the Classroom Assessment Scoring System: Pre-K (CLASS) and the fiscal condition related to audit findings. The proposed revisions will ensure OHS identifies those communities where competition is the most warranted and more effectively holds grantees accountable, while making the DRS more transparent.

ACF-PI-HS-19-01 Disaster Recovery Funding

- This Program Instruction (PI) outlines the process to request disaster recovery funds for Head Start and Early Head Start program recovery, including replacement of damaged or destroyed property and facilities following hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, and earthquakes occurring in calendar year 2018 and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019. The PI is also intended to assist governing bodies and key management staff in determining the types of assistance and amount of recovery funds that are needed.

**Old Business:** None

## **Director Update:**

Heartland held the first Teddy Bear tour of the school year on September 17th. All but one Board of Education member attended. Teddy Bear Tours are one-hour tours for the Salina community. Casy Ziegler provides statistics and Diane Cusick talks about success stories. The next Teddy Bear Tour is scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup>.

GSCF awarded Heartland \$5,000 to fund our Food Insecurities Program. We also received \$5,000 from CHIP and \$2500 from Salina Charities to fund the Food Insecurities Program.

Panera Bread End of Day Dough-Nation program started a few weeks ago. In Salina, Heartland picks up leftover bread from Panera on Tuesday nights and the bread is distributed to families on Wednesday morning.

Kevin Tran, our Food Service Manager, received a Healthier CACFP Award. This award was for making the menus more healthy and received a \$500 stipend for the award.

### **New Business:**

**Parent Committees:** Parents and Community members were given the opportunity to sign up for committees. Committees are:

- Human Resources Committee
- Family Engagement Committee
- Grant and Budget Committee
- Health Services Advisory Council
- Marketing Committee
- School Readiness Committee

**Self-Assessment Plan** – Casy Ziegler: The 2019 Self-Assessment summary was provided to Policy Council during the meeting. Head Start programs are required to complete a Self-Assessment each year. This year, Heartland brought groups of staff together to answer questions about needed services and our community for the purpose of self-assessment. Once the interviews were completed and information aggregated, the findings became part of the Self-Assessment report. The data was used to develop a plan to use program strengths to improve areas needing growth.

Updates to the Self-Assessment Plan will be presented to Policy Council throughout the year to share progress.

Adriana Holmes motioned to approve the Self-Assessment Plan as presented. Roberta Braden seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Parent Leadership Conference:** The Kansas Children’s Service League annual Parent Leadership Conference will be November 15-16, 2019 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka. This free event will include breakout sessions, speakers, child care and more. Limited child care is available. Hotel rooms are available for families who live more than 100 miles (roundtrip) from Topeka. A flyer was provided to Policy Council members and were encouraged to attend. Heartland will reimburse parents for mileage following attendance of the conference.

**Integrated Preschool Report:** Casy Ziegler reported USD305 Integrated classrooms are located in Cottonwood, Oakdale, Hageman, Schilling, and Sunset Elementary Schools and one classroom at Heartland in Salina. This collaboration began at the beginning of this school year and combines preschool-aged at risk and special education classrooms to create six integrated classrooms. The total enrollment of Preschool-Aged At-Risk students is 62. The total enrollment of Special Education Preschool students is 63. Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Parents As Teachers Report:** Casy Ziegler provided a Parents As Teachers report. Currently, there are 64 families/76 children enrolled with a cumulative enrollment of 69 families/8 children. The program has collaborated with Early Head Start and Head Start provide a Trunk or Treat event for families on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00-7:00PM.

## **Parent Reports:**

**Natascha Busch** (MLK Parent) reported PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) social/emotional curriculum has been introduced in the classroom. Each child is invited to teach a PATHS lesson each week. Children were asked to say something kind about each child during circle time. At home, they are working on using the phrase “tell your sister how that makes you feel”, so they are able to talk about how they feel instead of responding first in anger.

David Powell reported his 4 year-old loves the breathing technique with thumbs up. His son Logan (3), was referred to Dr. Zuccarelli and diagnosed with autism. Dr. Zuccarelli and the Head Start teacher, Joslyn worked together to create a plan. They are beginning to implement processes to help with behaviors.

Chelsea Luffman (Enterprise) reported both her children love the breathing techniques. They use the S.T.A.R. and the Pretzel. Dawn (family consultant) brought a laminated chart with all the breathing techniques to help children communicate their feeling and practice breathing techniques. They do it on their own now and don't need to be prompted. Dawn shared examples of how her son is doing in the classroom. He is doing a good job communicating his feelings with his peers. Dawn said his behaviors have improved greatly since starting school. A friend was pushing him and grabbing him, and he calmly asked him to stop and said he didn't like it. He asked him to give him some space. She was really impressed with that. Dawn's packet on Conscious Discipline helped explain the brain and was easy to understand.

**Adriana Holmes** (Past Parent) reported elementary school focuses so much on academics, so at home, they go back to what they learned about Conscious Discipline to help control emotions.

## **Community Member Report:**

Keri Kavouras (Salina Pediatric) reported Flu shots are available. Children are able to receive flu shots starting at 6 months.

Jim Fletcher (USD#305 Board of Education) reported USD305 staff are working really hard. Next Tuesday the school board will review the SPED program and will vote on a 4-year plan to integrate SPED back into all schools. They propose distributing SPED to the neighborhood schools. Vaping is a big issue in our community right now. It's creating a lot of havoc for administrators because of the easily hidden devices.

Adriana Holmes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Sherri Lafolette seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by Alaina Ryan, Administrative Assistant