
Arrival

Attendance: Matt Winter, Ashley Holien, Gina Lang, Shelly Schanen, Terah Grace, Sam Gaylor, Katie Bothun, Julia Brummer, Lucy Eilertson, Heather Blair, Caitlin Sipe, Robert Yang

Staff Attendance: Jenna Ruble, Kristi Hanson, Cheryl Senum, Kelsey Most

Minutes from January meeting approved

ECFS Program Updates

Introduction of Kelsey Most – ECFS Teacher on Special Assignment

Introduction of new and interested members: Sam Gaylor, Julia Brummer, Lucy Eilertson, Caitlin Sipe, Robert Yang

ECFE Spring: Online classes begin February 16, 2021. In-person small groups will be available in the spring. Some classes will be virtual and some classes will be hybrid. One-time events are also planned for Spring which have been working well in this new set up. Virtual classes are open to families in different states – which is also working well. Outdoor opportunities are happening in the backyard of the DVLC. Backyard blast is happening weekly - \$5 per family. Sledding, fort building, scavenger hunt etc.

Connections Preschool: Fall planning in underway. Plans are to return to in-person learning in the Fall. Brochure and application are running about a month behind – will hopefully be available mid-March.

MNAFEE ECFE Advocacy Training: Legislator and Lobbyist gave a presentation; Discussion surrounding successful ways of informing MN state legislators and representatives regarding district happenings. A worksheet was handed out outlining how to tell your story and send to your legislator. Once a handful of communications (ie: 10) are collected, they begin to explore the topic. Toolkit for effective ways to communicate with your legislator were also discussed – Do not write an email in all CAPS.

Committee Reports

Parent Leader Meeting: District 196 is applying for a full time digital academy for the future. Elementary and Secondary will be offered. Elementary would be its own separate entity. Secondary will not be able to offer STEM/specialty options.

Legislative Advisory Council: Day at the Capital is February 24th. Talk about District 196 priorities, hoping for a better in-district decision-making authority, equalization aid and 2% bump in funding. If a district has a higher amount of commercial aid, that helps pay for funding. If not, the cost is passed onto families within the district. Looking for better serve families of pre-k children in underserved communities.

Committees

Valentine Day Bag Pick Up: 131 bags were made, 110 bags requested. Only had approximately 1/3rd of the families pick up a bag. Received \$88 in donations on site. Received \$60 in pay pal donations. \$146 earned total.

Parent Night In: March 18th @ 8:00pm workshop with Mary Sheedy Kurcinka planning. Suggested entrance fee of \$15-\$20. Profits will go towards scholarships for ECFE/Preschool. Marketing meeting set for February 23rd @ 7:15pm to discuss details.

Teacher Appreciation: Heather Blair described elementary event involving pairing with Dunn Brothers for a teacher drive thru. Heather will look more into this.

Other Business

Ashley will email a list of committees to the new Advisory Council members.

Meeting Adjourned