

## Ellington School Readiness Council

Agenda March 21, 2022

Agenda item	School Readiness Quality component	Notes
<p>Introductions</p>	<p><i>School Council membership, Responsibilities, and the Role of the Liaison (GP C-01)</i></p>	<p><u>Members in Attendance:</u>            Sandy Fowler- Ellington School Readiness Liaison            Diane Lasher-Penti- Youth Family Services            Becky Hinkley- Preschool of the Arts            Megan Davis- Ellington Public Schools Preschool Coordinator            Sara Spak- Ellington Public Schools Special Services Supervisor            Janet Settle- Little House in the Country            Pat Grundman- Ellington Public Schools Library            Daksh Rampal- Urgent Care            Veronica King- Little House in the Country Curriculum Specialist</p> <p>School Readiness Council is responsible for ensuring all 11 School Readiness Quality Components are being met and collaboration is taking place within the community.</p>
<p>FY RFP 2023 School Readiness Grant and Quality Enhancement grant.</p>	<p><i>School Readiness GP B-04 Definition of Space Types, Categories of Care</i></p>	<p>If you are interested in this opportunity, please email me at <a href="mailto:sfowler@crec.org">sfowler@crec.org</a> for an application. All applications are due April 1.</p> <p>Ellington Public Schools has requested an application and will be submitting an application to the council.</p> <p>The RFP is posted on the Ellington Town website.</p> <p>Janet Settle asked if legislation has been passed about including religious based programs in the school readiness grant. Sandy Fowler will reach out to Janet with more information.</p>
<p>Quality Enhancement Grant</p>	<p><i>School Readiness GP B-04</i></p>	<p>Janet Settle discussed the possibility of training for staff linked to student's transition to Kindergarten. It has been done in the</p>

	<i>Definition of Space Types, Categories of Care</i>	<p>past and has been helpful for community-based programs to know Kindergarten expectations.</p> <p>Sara Spak discussed that she will provide Sandy a contact at Ellington Public Schools to support this process.</p>
Update on current enrollment and grant award	<i>School Readiness GP B-04 Definition of Space Types, Categories of Care</i>	<p>Current updates for slots are below: <u>Ellington BOE</u>: 10 Full Day/School Year Slots &amp; 7 Part Day/School Year are currently full. There are currently 3 families on the SR waitlist. 15/17 are below the 75% income level</p> <p>Ellington BOE is waiting for their 15 day window and is currently waiting for NAEYC accreditation visit</p>
New legislation pertaining to School Readiness	<i>School Council membership, Responsibilities, and the Role of the Liaison (GP C-01)</i>	<p>School Readiness Program Changes A new law requires (1) that at least 25% of the membership of each local school readiness council consist of parents of program-eligible children and (2) the council to document efforts to ensure that the racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic composition of the council reflects that of the town. It also changes how the council chairperson is selected.</p> <p>Sandy recommended that the team move forward with the update in the bi-laws pertaining to new legislation.</p> <p>If you are interested in serving on a small group (with Diane) to survey Council membership, and recruitment of members including parents, the team will be meeting on April 4, 2022 at 1:00pm.</p>
Update on Quality Components and collaborations (see below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Library activities</li> </ul>	<i>School Readiness Council Membership, Responsibilities, and the Role of the Liaison (GP C-01)</i>	<p>Pat Grundman stated that preschool library programs are running again, but still at a limited capacity. She is hoping that numbers resume to normal by the summer. Reading to the Dogs is a popular program in town. Students are able to read to therapy dogs.</p>

		<p>Janet Settle asked if the library is open to visitors and field trips for students during the April 11 spring vacation week. Pat discussed that the library is open to visitors and will work with Janet to schedule a time.</p> <p>Dr. Rampal discussed that there has been a trend in people delaying their primary and preventative care. He is hoping that this will get back on track in the upcoming months and is hoping for positive trends moving forward.</p>
New Business		Next School Readiness Council Meeting will May 16, 2022 at 1:00pm
Old Business		

### Quality Components

The legislation has identified specific requirements for School Readiness programs as part of the continuum of services in quality programs that meet the needs of children and families. These indicators include:

- A plan for collaboration with other community programs and services, including public libraries and for coordination of resources in order to facilitate full-day and year-round child-care and education programs for children of working parents and parents in education or training programs;
- Parent involvement, parenting education and outreach;
- Referrals for health services, including referrals for appropriate immunizations and screenings;
- Nutrition services;
- Referrals to family literacy programs that incorporate adult basic education and provide for the promotion of literacy through access to public library services;
- Admission policies that promote enrollment of children from different racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds and from other communities;
- A plan of transition for participating children from the School Readiness program to kindergarten and provide for the transfer of records from the program to the kindergarten program;
- A plan for professional development for staff;
- A sliding fee scale for families participating in the program;

- An annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the program; and
- A plan to ensure that children with disabilities are integrated into programs with children who are not disabled.