



Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes
February 21, 2023

Minutes

Members present: Laura Bjork, **Heather Blair**, Jennifer Bordonaro, Jamie Duffey, Melissa Dunlay, Meredith Eilertson Azeem, Therine Liss, **Katie Rudolph**, Adrienne Rysavy and Ruku Viswanthan (staff liaison)

ISD 196 Staff present: Jenna Ruble and Kristi Hanson

Guest: Maggie Flaten and Jamie Duffey

Call to Order

Chairperson Heather Blair called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m. Introductions were made.

Approval of January 17, 2023 minutes

Chairperson called for motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 meeting and full council approved.

ECFS Program Updates – Jenna Ruble and Kristi Hanson

- ECFE
 - Kristi shared that ECFE Spring catalog has been mailed out to district families and the lottery closes on March 7, 2023.
- Connections Preschool
 - Jenna shared the Connections Preschool brochure will be mailed on February 28, 2023. Applications received before March 13, 2023 will have priority processing. Those families will be notified via email no later than March 31, 2023 whether their child has been placed in a preschool classroom OR if they have been placed on a waiting list. Due to space limitations, we cannot place all applicants.
 - Bond referendum May 9, 2023. Additional information can be found at District196.org/bond
- ECFS Advocacy Group
 - Kristi shared a reminder that ECFS Advocacy Group day at the Minnesota State Capital is on March 15, 2023. The purpose is to bring forward the voice of young children to our Senators and State Representatives.
 - Funding at MDE for ECFE and is moving through legislature.

Liaison Updates

- 196 Legislative Advisory Council – Wednesday, January 18, 2023
 - Therine Liss attended and shared the following: discussion and information regarding the bond referendum, approved priorities: increase 4%/student, special education funding and met with representatives.

- Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting – Tuesday, January 24, 2023
 - o Jennie and Katie attended these meetings and shared the following: discussion and information regarding the bond referendum and went through the districts process on how decisions are made regarding weather related changes and/or closings.
- ECFS Foundation Meeting – rescheduled

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 7, 2023	Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting	Will receive an email link	Group 1: 9:30 – 10:30 am Group 2: 5:00 – 6:00 pm
Wednesday, March 8, 2023	ECFS Foundation Meeting	DVLC	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 14, 2023	Community Education Advisory Council	Zoom	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 15, 2023	196 Legislative Advisory Council	Apple Valley High School	6:00-7:30 pm

Committee Updates

Family Fun Event – March 4, 2023

- Overview of Bidding Owl – Laura
 - o Therine will be the back-up while Laura is out of town
- Sign-up for volunteering
- No delivery of baskets

Teacher Appreciation – May 1, 2023

- \$200.00 budget
- Ideas- please add to the shared Google Document
- Distribution to all sites

Plant Fundraiser

- Pahl’s or other?

Fall 2023 Open House

- Ideas/dates discussed

Other Business

- **New Advisory Council Members** – Maggie Flaten and Jamie Duffey joined the meeting. Heather Blair asked the council to vote; the vote amongst the Council was unanimously “In Favor.” Maggie Flaten and Jamie Duffey were appointed as new ECFS Advisory Council members starting in February 2023.

Adjournment

There being no further business Meredith Eilertson Azeem made a motion to adjourn, Therine Liss seconded and full council approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates

3rd Tuesday, every month - March 21, 2023, April 18, 2023, and May 16, 2023

Respectfully submitted, Dacia Liszka