



Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes

March 21, 2023

Minutes

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

ISD 196 Staff present: Jenna Ruble, Kristi Hanson and Dacia Liszka

Guest: Stephanie Marshall

Call to Order

Chairperson Heather Blair called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m. Introductions were made.

Approval of February 21, 2023 minutes

Chairperson called for motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2023 meeting and full council approved.

ECFS Program Updates – Jenna Ruble and Kristi Hanson

- ECFE
 - Kristi Hanson shared as of March 10, 2023 there are currently 345 children and 264 families registered for spring quarter. Thirteen of the 40 classes are full and six are half-full. There are also a few openings in Family School.
- Connections Preschool
 - Jenna Ruble shared 426 four-year-olds and 126 three-year-olds were placed in Connections Preschool for the 23-24 school year.

Liaison Updates

- 196 Legislative Advisory Council – Wednesday, January 18, 2023
 - Therine Liss attended and shared the following: we are now the third largest school district in the state and recently acquired Empire Township. There was discussion on student support around drug/alcohol, emotion and mental health offerings, etc. The Coordinator of the Equity and Inclusion team shared BIPOC statistics on teachers and students in our District vs State.
- Community Education Advisory Council – Tuesday, March 14, 2023
 - Bond related discussion and information. Bond referendum May 9, 2023. Additional information can be found at District196.org/bond

- Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting – Tuesday, March 7, 2023
 - o Bond related discussion and information. Also discussed pre-Labor Day school start for the 24-25 school year. Bond referendum May 9, 2023. Additional information can be found at District196.org/bond

- ECFS Foundation Meeting – Wednesday, March 8, 2023
 - o Foundation was very pleased on the success of the Family Fun event held on March 4, 2023. They discussed succession planning, as a few members who will be retiring.

Upcoming Events

April 27, 2023	ECFS Foundation	Dakota Valley Learning Center	6:15 – 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 9, 2023	Community Education Advisory Council	Dakota Valley Learning Center	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16, 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, May 31, 2023	196 Legislative Advisory Council	Apple Valley High School	6:00-7:30 pm

Committee Updates

Co-Chair

- After 9 years, Heather Blair is retiring from the council. Katie Rudolph will be the lead Co-Chair and we are currently looking for a new Co-Chair.

Family School Book Drive

- Meeting scheduled for May 2, 2023 in Room 118 to go through all donated books. We will need 5-6 council members to assist. Jamie, Meredith, Kristi and Jennie committed to this date and time. Both Melissa’s are TBD’s. Jennie received donated brand new reusable “shopping bags” for this event.

Education and Planning Committee

- Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at the DVLC from 6:15 – 7:45 p.m.

Teacher Appreciation – May 8, 2023

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

Plant Fundraiser

- Pahl’s
- Need to finalize details, pick-up dates and times, etc.

Fall 2023 Open House

- Katie Rudolf will take the lead on this with the support of other council members. Looking to revamp this even and Ideas/dates discussed.

Other Business

- **New Advisory Council Members** – Melissa Siri-Outhay joined the meeting. Heather Blair asked the council to vote; the vote amongst the Council was unanimously “In Favor.” Melissa Siri-Outhay was appointed as new ECFS Advisory Council members starting in March 2023.

Adjournment

There being no further business Ruku Viswanthan made a motion to adjourn, Melissa Dunlay seconded and full council approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates

3rd Tuesday, every month - May 16, 2023

Respectfully submitted, Dacia Liszka