



## Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes

March 19, 2024

### Minutes

**Members present:** Melissa Dunlay, Meredith Eilertson Azeem, Jorge González Castro, Jessica Glenn, Dean Hiracheta, **Katie Rudolph**, Adrienne Rysavy, Therine Liss, and Ruku Viswanathan (staff liaison)

#### **Guest:**

**ISD 196 Staff present:** Jenna Ruble and Kristi Hanson

#### **Call to Order**

Chairperson Katie Rudolph called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Introductions were made.

#### **Recorder**

Jenna Ruble

#### **Approval of February 20, 2024 minutes**

Chairperson called for motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2024 meeting and full council approved.

#### **Co-Chair**

- If you or someone is interested, we're looking for nominations for next year.
- Accept nominations
- Vote in April meeting.

#### **Retirements**

- Jenna Ruble is retiring at the end of the 23-24 school year.
- Advisory Council members, please fill out the survey that Khia Bruse, Director of Community Education sent out.

#### **New ECFS Advisory Council Members**

- Return to the practice of focusing on adding new members in the Spring of each year
  - o Invite interested applicants to the April meeting to visit and vote them in May
  - o Katie created a flyer to send out on social media and classes
  - o Kristi will compose an email to Parent Educators
  - o Parent Educators communicating to parents is very impactful

#### **Early Childhood Family Services Update/Overview**

## ECFE

- We will be hosting a summer program, similar than last year, one less class.
- April 12<sup>th</sup> has been declared by the Governor as ECFE day as it's the 50<sup>th</sup> year. Kristi is asking to consider Open House as themed 50 years.
- Spring class registration is still open. 324 children and 230 families, 39 new families. Down slightly from last year, and we will get about 1/3 more families prior to the first session. Which classes are the most popular? Topic 0-5
- Topics for Ed Planning committee
- Parents having trouble getting to classes at a time that conflicts with kindergarten drop off
- Gradual separating and not a non-separating class offered at the same time

## Connections Preschool

- The priority processing window for the 2024-25 school year closed on March 10, 2024. Placements are currently taking place. As of this meeting we were able to place 335 4-year-olds and 40 will be added to the waitlist, of which 36 are for our full day classes. Currently working on the 3-year-olds and have a total of 119 spots to fill.

## Liaison Updates

- **ECFS Foundation Meeting (2/29/24)**
  - o The ECFS Foundation is creating a grant application for teachers to apply for ECFS foundation funds.
- **Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting (3/5/24)** Therine – main topic hiring the new Superintendent. Mary will be on board until the end of the school year, they are hiring early to have transition time. Also talked about unemployment in the summer.
- **196 Legislative Advisory Council (3/6/24)** - meeting canceled
- **Community Education Advisory Council (3/12/24)** - Enrollment was slightly lower in 2024, you can see the trends in what people are taking. Highlights, revitalizing partnerships with community partners, (i.e.: Photography classes at MN Zoo classes) looking at daytime fitness, parenting classes for free or pay as you can. Elected a new vice-chair. Starry night Gala looking for volunteers.

## Committee Updates

### Hospitality Committee Jamie

- Next Hospitality Committee meeting is April 16 at 5:30 p.m.
  - o Teacher Appreciation week

### Fundraising Committee – Katie and Melissa

- Next Fundraising Committee meeting will be April 22 at 5:00 p.m.
- March 2 Family Fun Event Recap Reflection and feedback
  - Feedback:
    - o Some people didn't know there was an auction, would it help to give away an item randomly during the event. Every 15 min drawing for a prize – maybe not with kids
    - o Needs to be more obvious that there is a deadline.
    - o Could hand people a card with the QR code on it for the silent auction.
    - o Also tear off the with the fish pond ticket on it.
    - o Pick up dates also need to be advertised better.
    - o Snack room could have had information for the council, the silent auction.
    - o Could use more volunteers.
    - o Popular – not competing with other things, free.

- Might want to spread it out into more spaces in the building – two-night animal’s rooms, two fishing games, scavenger hunt
- Snack room, perfect number of snacks (for 300, Jeff – no muffins).
- Ran out of coffee (two canteens) – it was gone quickly
- Silent Auction: Add Raising Canes for next year – Therine will get it

	March 2, 2024	March 4, 2023
<b>Participants</b>	328 Children + 665 adults = Total 993	171 Children + 157 Adults = Total 328
<b>Revenue</b>	\$5,205.00 (Total Raised) -\$260.25 (Less 5% charge from Bidding Owl) \$472.41 (Cash Donations) <b>= \$5,417.16 (Grand Total Raised)</b>	\$3,314.00 (Total Raised) -\$165.70 (Less 5% charge from Bidding Owl) \$262 (Cash Donations) <b>= \$3,410.30 (Grand Total Raised)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	\$177.64 (Dacia)	\$117.95 (Dacia)

**Education and Planning Committee**

- No updates to share as the committee is current looking at other districts class topic offerings, times, structure, etc.

**Family School Book Drive Committee**

- Sorting date for the committee: Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm
  - 5-6 boxes that are wrapped. Kristi will bring those out and change the date. She will also update the flyer and send it out. Kristi will check to see if we can use the recently donated bags. Can also get them from Trader Joes, Lunds/Byerly’s
  - The books will be ready to pick up on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The Shakopee book connection person is going to gather and drop off books for us. Meredith will get them from her on April 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Can we give out flyers from the donors about their business? - Yes

**Upcoming Events**

TBD	ECFS Foundation Meeting	DVLC	6:00-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 14, 2024	Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting	Zoom	Group 1: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Group 2: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 3, 2024	196 Legislative Advisory Council	District Office – 3455 153 <sup>rd</sup> St. W., Rosemount	6:00-7:30 pm
Tuesday, May 14, 2024	Community Education Advisory Council	DVLC	6:00-7:30 pm

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business Katie Rudolph made a motion to adjourn, Meredith Eilertson Azeem first, and Therine Liss seconded and full council approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**Future Meeting Dates**

3rd Tuesday, every month - April 16, 2024, and May 21, 2024

Respectfully submitted, Dacia Liszka