

South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub
Lake County Community Governance Council
January 23, 2018 Agenda

Meeting was held at the Lake County ESD Conference room.

Introductions –

1. Introductions

Present: Mike Benson, Gail Buermann, Will Cahill, Reejen Cooper, Jill Harlan, Amy Hutchinson, Jack Thompson, Gillian Wesenberg.

2. Review Agenda

Jack requested to amend the agenda to include to add Priority Strategies Funding for Lake County as an item. Agenda approved as amended.

a. Approve December 2017 Minutes

Minutes of the December 19, 2017 meeting were discussed, and language for item 4. A. Funding for 2017-18 was clarified as follows: The regional governance council met and discussed the \$155, 986.33 funding for 2017-18. If the funding was done by percentages of population, Lake County would only receive 3%. Douglas ESD has instituted a \$10,000 floor before percentages are used. Lake County is slated to receive \$15,000 for services. Vicky is working with Gillian to see how designated infrastructure funds can be pooled to hire a part-time person to do family resource coordination and some administrative work. There is potentially funding through Focused Childcare Network to contract with someone in Lake County to work with local childcare providers on getting registered and rated through QRIS/SPARK and/or improve their ratings. This is dependent upon finding a qualified local candidate who to do the work.

3. Hub Updates

a. Focused Childcare Network Grant:

Gillian requests help finding a qualified person to do the work for a Focused Childcare Network grant to work with Lake County providers to get registered and rated through QRIS/SPARK. The timeline for the work is now through the June 2019, and person needs to be connected to Heather Frielinger.

b. Reporting

Gillian reported they are working with state to help streamline the reporting process so it will be simpler and easier.

c. Collaborative Meeting

In February the hub collaborative meeting will be held. The goal is to get hubs from across the state together to talk together about how we are showing the changes we are making changes in children's lives.

4. Priority strategies funding for Lake County

Jack and Gillian reported that there is \$15,000 available for services to the Lake County priority areas: Fremont/Hay Elementary and North Lake School. Jack proposes that some of the funding be used to cover enrollment for kids in those school areas in the Imagination Library program, and the remainder be used for some type of book

club/family engagement program through the local libraries. Various considerations were discussed. Gail suggested that gas reimbursements would help increase attendance in her area. She also noted that many of her parents don't believe they have the skills to be able to help their children learn when in reality they do. Will noted that family engagement nights with food have been successful in the past at the school, so that might be a good model. Amy, Jack, and Gail will get together as a small group to put together a proposal for a couple of different options to bring back to the group.

5. Schools Updates

a. LCSD #7

Will reported that he and Susan Warner, Fremont/Hay principal, are currently wrestling very much with attendance by the younger students – both Kindergarten and 1st grade. It's getting chronically worse every year. Reejen asked if the teachers call within the first hour of non-attendance, and Will says the secretaries do call. The other part of the problem is the kids often show up so late they have already missed breakfast and they need food before going to class. Jack recommends breakfast bars that are available through commodities. They are very inexpensive. In his previous school, they purchased them out of general funds and equipped the secretaries with them to give out to students as needed. They do not need refrigeration, and the costs are so minimal they did not try to get it reimbursed.

b. North Lake School

Gail reported that things are going well up there overall, and she has nothing new to report at this time.

6. Early Learning Providers

Reejen reported Head Start has taken in five family applications recently that were all over income, and this is becoming a trend in Lakeview. They are working on budget and thinking about changing program next year to improve the situation. They are still actively looking for a bus driver. She has reached out to a variety of local businesses with CDL drivers and still has not been successful. She is also working on grantwriting for the playground right now.

7. Health Providers

Jill reported that Public Health is working on school immunizations in February. The health fair immunized many, but they will be sending some letters soon. She currently has 5 Cocoon kids and only 2 in Babies First. Many in her programs recently went into foster care.

8. Parent/Guardian

There were no parents of 0-5 present at this meeting.

9. Other Member Updates

a. Library

Amy reported that the Imagination Library is off to a great start. We anticipated registering 20-40% of eligible kids in the first year and registered 20% in the first 24 hours. Currently about 37% of eligible children are registered. Mike asked if the registration window was closing soon. Amy explained that registration is always open. The book order is processed at the end of the month for books to

be mailed the following month. Registrations received in the library by 1/29/18 will receive their first book in March. She also noted that age-appropriate books are selected for kids for each calendar year of birth, so if there are multiple children under 5 in the home, they will receive different books unless two children are born in the same calendar year. Everyone receives *The Little Engine That Could* as their first book. The Friends have been very lucky on donations for the program so far. Marci Wade of 93.5 The Goose KORV served as premier sponsor and solicited funds from other local businesses. The Friends were able to open the Imagination Library account with \$4,600. The goal is to have two to three years operational cost in the fund at all times to ride out any lean donation times.

10. LICC Meeting

a. Program Status

Mike reported that the program currently has 18 children total on IFSP's. Five children are in the EI program and 13 in the ECSE program.

b. Referral/Evaluation

Mike reported the program currently has 4 children in the evaluation process all of whom will qualify for services. Two of the current evaluations have meeting dates scheduled in the next week or so to complete the process. One additional child will likely be referred for testing early next week. Two additional families have moved into our service are with special education eligibilities since the new year began. Services are in the process of being developed and records have been requested from various agencies to assist in the development and qualifying of children for the program. The program is also tracking an additional two children with ongoing developmental assessments to determine when a potential referral is appropriate.

c. SPR&I

Mike reported the program completed the annual file review for procedural compliance. Data has been entered in the ODE website and submitted for their review. The program was technically out of compliance on a few issues; however the compliance issues were related to cancellations or families being unavailable. The program documented why dates and timelines were missed. I believe the potential compliance issues will be justified and result with in no further reviews or improvement plans required from the state.

d. Transitions

The program met with District #7 kindergarten and special education staff on January 10th for a pre transition meeting. We discussed several children who will likely need more than the typical amount of supports for children transitioning into their district next fall. The idea was to talk about needs before their budget planning was complete so the needs of the students could be considered more effectively. The program talked about the need for the district to build/create an in house capacity of potential special education aides as more children with significant needs will be entering their district in years to come. The district transition day is scheduled for Friday April 20th. Currently 5 children will

transition to the district in the fall of 2018. Two more children will also transition to school age programs that are in the evaluation process.

e. **Budget**

Mike reported the program recently signed contract agreements with DESD for our contracted money from ODE. The amended contracts are for the 2017-18 program year and also includes an increase in funding. Our business manager will likely complete a budget for the 2017-18 and submit it to ODE this week.

Jack reminded everyone that election day is today and to turn in their ballots if they haven't already done so. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 2018.