South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub

Lake County Community Governance Council

Sept 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Meeting began 1:30 pm at Lake County ESD conference room.

1. Introductions
   Present: Will Cahill, Melinda Collier, Jill Harlan, Krista Harrington, Amy Hutchinson, Kimberly Ishida, Ken Kestner, Michael Lasher, Bob Nash, Rhonda Neighorn, Vanessa PingletonCarrie Rodgers, Judy Springer, Vicky Taylor, Charley Tracy, Gillian Wesenberg,
2. Review Agenda/Additions
   Agenda was approved as presented.
3. Approve June 21, 2016 minutes
   Minutes were approved as presented.
4. EL Hub Updates: Gillian Wesenberg, SCOELH Director, and Michael Lasher, Douglas ESD Superintendent
   a. One-year Work Plan is due Thursday.
   b. Gillian reported on staffing changes
      i. Klamath is hiring for an early learning hub local coordinator and family resource facilitator.
      ii. Jessica Vaughn moved to the Douglas ESD Human Resources department so they are searching for someone new to fill her role.
      iii. Kristen Debner is working on a referral system and hoping some of that work can be shared. She has a master's in public health.
      iv. Vanessa Pingleton is the new home visiting systems coordinator funded by the Ford Family Foundation. She'll be working on several things including a shared intake and referral form. She is working especially to capture hard to reach families and to assist with transition periods. Gillian mentioned there is an event in Redmond coming up to convene FFF Leadership Institute graduates. FFF is willing to work on projects with community groups and they are willing to provide some stipends for temporary staffing. She strongly suggests making contact with them to explore options.
   c. State EL Coordination
      i. Michael reported that Megan Irwin, who was the leader of the EL Division within the Department of Education, has stepped down, and David Mandell has replaced here. He has been on staff in the EL Division. He is interested in pushing forward expanded preschool and early learning, especially if Measure 97 is approved. He has had some good

conversations with him about difficulties in working through the division. Their contracting process and timelines are challenging for those providing services.

ii. Gillian reported that she has a meeting scheduled with the Central Oregon Early Learning Hub. Marion and Multnomah Counties are working with the EL Division staff to help them understand the hubs perspectives on what is working and what needs to be changed. She noted that the EL Council representation has very few rural members and no K-12 representatives, and that can lead to incorrect assumptions. Bob noted that other ESD superintendents are also working to bring additional understanding to the EL Division.

iii. Ken asked who the EL Division answers to on the state level. Michael says that's part of the difficulty with the structure. It started as part of the Office of the Chief Education Officer apart from the Department of Education and was later moved to the Department of Education. The head of the Early Learning Division is appointed by the Governor even though it is now a division within Department of Education. Technically, the head of the Oregon Department of Education is the supervisor, but since the EL head is also an appointee, the relationship is more peer-like. Next up in line is Lindsey Kapps, Chief Education officer and Chief Education Policy Advisor. Ken reported he recently met Kate Sinner from the Governor's Office at a training, and he'd like to set up a meeting with her. Michael would be happy to meet Ken in Salem for that.

KK mentions also that fiber is coming to Paisley. BN said Hunter signed agreement mainly due to state and e-rate funding. Next step is Plush and Adel. KK working with SCOEDD on Warner Valley and Surprise Valley info gathering to be ready for a larger grant. Part is demographics and part is infrastructure engineering – KK's been talking with Connected Nation or Comnet met someone with Connect Nevada who connected her to this guy from CN/Comnet to help with the engineering. Trying to work with Surprise Valley Electric because they have poles throughout the area.

5. Updates/information: work on annual one-year work plan, all partners share any updated that are not currently on plan
    a. Everybody send updates to Amy by first thing tomorrow so can send to Gillian tomorrow afternoon so Gillian can send the final version in to state by Thursday.
6. Early Learning Partners
    a. Klamath Family Head Start – Lakeview: Vicky Taylor
    Vicky reported that the new building's walls arrived and projecting building

completion is December 31. After the building is finished it must go through the licensing process, which will take 2-3 months. They are hoping to be able to move in around spring break and get playground finished over next summer. Ken asked if the facility can be added onto in a later date if the community grows. Vicky said one of the offices is sizeable and could be converted to early head start with a bathroom. With the new facility they looking at serving 40 right away and that will be twice as many kids as they currently serve. She reported that new federal regulations require that by 2021 all 3-4 year olds have to go 6.5 hours per day, which changes what they can do and how many they can serve. They are working with regulators/legislators to see if waivers can be done for rural areas. Ken asked if got any response for expanded Early Head Start, and Vicky won't hear until winter.

b. Child Care Resource Network: Melinda Collier
    i. Provider education
    Melinda congratulated Vicky on their 4-star rating. CCRN is offering lots of classes through KCC and Southern Oregon RCC. They started a Family Focus Network so starred providers are helping others in process. It's a lot of hard work on the behalf of preschool teachers. Next quarter starting the paper interview to hopefully generate more participation from Lake County providers. They will be teaching QRIS, RCAN, and Overview. In Klamath they are working with Head Start and Oregon Child Development Coalition for Spanish speaking providers. It has worked well in Jackson and Josephine counties so hopefully works well in Klamath. All classes to be offered next quarter are free.
    ii. 211 Referral
    Melinda noted that effective July 1, 211 took over referral service for the state for childcare but CCRN are still working with families on how to assess quality of childcare, but the bulk of their work is changed to assisting and engaging providers. Amy asked who populates the 211 database and Gillian says local agencies provide information. Amy asked if 211 sends requests for updates regularly, and they do.

7. Schools/School Readiness-Bob, Gail, Judy
    a. Kindergarten Camps: Bob Nash & Judy Springer
    Bob reported they held first Kindergarten Camps and served 40 in Lakeview and Paisley. It was a complete and total success and they've had a request from District 7 (Lakeview) to expand to all Kindergarteners. Aside from ability to served unserved kids, was also a collaboration between folks in Early Learning Council, Paisley School District, District 7 staff, Head Start, and the

Commissioner's kicking in for food. The primary source of funding was the Regional Achievement Collaborative although others kicked in. Will Cahill says follow up with instructional staff was done and they reported the first week of school was completely transformed and instructional staff want to do it for all incoming kindergarten students. This was a great tool to get the biggest value for the investment. Judy reported she was only there a week before going out with an injury, but a new teacher and volunteers jumped in the second week. Parents also reported it was a great success and should be continued. Bob presented a draft report on the program. Gillian asked that SCOELH be added to the Partners list. Bob reported that there is funding at least for a second and possibly a third year.

b. Bob reported they are putting final touches on funding application due to SCOELH due Oct 3rd and plan to be done on Thurs. Goals:
    i. Begin Ready for Kindergarten program in Lake County with our sites. Cynthia Hurkes will provide materials without charge.
    ii. Continue Kindergarten Readiness and Kindergarten Engagement activities with kids and families. It has been very beneficial and we want to continue.
    iii. Expand Kindergarten Camps to serve all kids in the Lakeview area. They can already serve all kids in Paisley. In the future, they may have to strategize how we apply for this as North Lake School has been funding all preschool activities through an OCF grant they are in the last year of. Next year they will need funds to serve their population.
c. Bob reported he met with Kat Cooper couple of weeks ago about a Parenting Hub. Three workshops will be scheduled in the next year and Judy is thinking of having these piggybacked on her activities. More classes for the community may also be opened up.
d. Bob has been in contact with Kristy Albertson, the grant writer at the Lakeview hospital. She will be working with new CHIP coordinator to submit grant application to continue the dental hygiene program in the schools. Lake County is one of few counties that had 100% participation in prevenatitve dental services. Last year it was opened to home schoolers and they hope to expand to preschoolers. Gillian asked if Public Health can distribute info to encourage child-care providers. Jill asked what kind of information would be distributed. Melinda will get to Jill perhaps a script or other info to talk about.

8. Public Health/Health Providers
    a. Jill reported Public Health is doing a three month trial on doing ASQ even though they were not able to get funding. Anytime they give immunizations to kids 0-5

they will hand them out and coordinate with doctors' offices. Vicky will send Jill information on who has been given to Dr. Graham. Jill will connect Vicky tpo other doctors she worked with in a recent meeting on the subject of ASQs. Gillian asked if the CCO mas involved and Jillian said yes.

9. DHS Update: Rhonda Neighorn
    a. Child Abuse Prevention Month
    Rhonda reported they are working on the pinwheel the symbol for CAPN. This year they are focusing on neglect and working on pinwheel gardens. She asked that anyone interested in hosting a pinwheel garden get in touch with her.
    b. Assistance available
    Rhonda noted that Jeremy asked her to come to the meeting in part because she specializes in Ling business processes and she'd be happy to help with that and any information on poverty population, etc.
    c. Navigators
    As part of some contracts they pay for navigators to be there to help clients to go through the assessments, interviews, intakes, as well as nutrition and grocery shopping, etc, and connect to services. Gillian asked if Rhonda can help Kimberly get training as needed, and she can. Rhonda also mentioned it's helpful if navigators are included in case plans. Charley reported Home Health Hospice are already dealing with families in crisis, and it's working very well for them to work as navigators. Ken asks if families are successful when navigators are removed. Rhonda says that there are some successes, and sometimes a lot of resources are expended on people who are not going to make different decisions no matter what supports they are provided with but the state must make the effort. Charley mentioned that families have must have moderate to high needs to go into the program. Clients sometimes still call after cases are closed. Vicky mentioned that there is more of a helping hand view of DHS than punitive as in past.
10. **LICC** meeting/updates: Bob Nash for Mike Benson
    a. Mike and 1 part time assistant is the entire county's staff. A normal case load is 13 to 15, but last year they finished with 20 or 21 and started this year with caseload of 18, and are already working on 2-3 referrals. The caseloads are going up all over but funding is not and they are hoping for some legislative attention to the issue. The percentage of kids who go thru Early Intervention that then do not need Special Education services at kindergarten is high; it's a very effective program. Vicky reported the new assistant was at Head Start this week and is really good with the kids.