

**South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub
Lake County Community Governance Council
April 26, 2016 Meeting Agenda**

Meeting times 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Meeting @ ESD Conference Room Call in 605-562-3000 Access Code 903411

1. Introductions

Gillian Wesenberg (South Central Oregon Early Learning Hub), Krissi Hewitt (Chief Education Office), Heidi McGowan (consultant supporting Regional Achievement Collaboratives through Oregon Solutions), Bill Wurtz (Paisley School), Ken Kestner (Lake County Commissioner), Michael Benson (Early Intervention), Will Cahill (Lake County School District #7), Meera Norris (Lake County CHIP), Bob Nashe (Lake County ESD), Mindy Bentley (Advantage Dental), Vicky Taylor (Klamath Family Head Start Lakeview), Cynthia Hurkes Douglas ESD Early Learning Facilitator), Judy Springer (Lake County School District 7), and Amy Hutchinson (Lake County Library District) were present.

2. Review Agenda/Additions

No additions or changes were made.

3. Approve March 15, 2016 minutes

Vicky asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes. None were offered. Minutes were approved as presented.

4. EL Hub Director Updates: Gillian

a. Preschool Promise

Gillian knows that Lake County is not currently involved in Preschool Promise, but she is learning a lot about what it all encompasses.

b. Flexible Funds Request for Proposals

Gillian reported that the request for proposals was issued recently and we should have received it. There is a total of about \$170,000 in available funding. She encouraged the local council to look at the criteria and what we can do to collaborate on a proposal. She also noted that it is already known this funding will not be guaranteed for future years. She also encouraged the local council to connect the Equity Assessment and other systemic pieces to the proposal. Applications should also contain appropriate metrics for evaluation. Proposals for the RFP are due May 16. Interested council members set a work session for Monday, May 2, 2016 at 7:30 am at Lake County ESD.

c. Equity Assessment

Gillian noted that she is thrilled that the Lake County Local Council is looking at the Equity Assessment as a community. Bob asked what the deliverables are for the assessment. Gillian needs the assessment in time

to submit a final version on behalf of the hub by June 30th. Vicky requests that everyone have their information back to her by May 7th so she can compile it for Gillian.

d. Oregon Parenting Education Collaboration

Gillian reported that they should hear about the status of this grant mid-May. The recent site visit went well, and Gillian is hopeful for good news.

5. Update from Chief Education Office: Krissi Hewitt and Heidi McGowan

Krissi manages oversight for the Regional Achievement Collaboratives, of which there are 13, as well as the STEM Hub initiative of which there are 11. She is looking forward to working more with Early Learning Hubs. She really values the work of partnerships and wants to connect to community leaders and empower them and advocate for appropriate policy and legislation for all kinds of communities. She commended the Lake County Local Council for becoming a new Regional Achievement Collaborative and a part of a new Early Learning Hub.

Heidi is consultant assigned to this group as well as some other RACs, STEM Hubs and EL Hubs through Oregon Solutions Network. Looking ahead, she's learned from collaboratives across the state that strong collaboratives are poised and ready to take advantage of funding opportunities, especially since a lot of funding is starting to be targeted to flow through collaboratives.

Krissi stated that they really want to hear from us about what's new and any questions or issues they can assist with. Bob offered that 3 years ago when RACs rolled out we didn't really have that kind of collaborative structure in place and couldn't take advantage of it. The EL hub provided that structure.

Krissi shared that there's been a positive discussions amongst state leadership around supporting partnerships. There should be some funds coming through the RACs to work on counseling for post-secondary education.

Bob credited Ken with getting the ball rolling on by asking him why we didn't have a RAC in Lake County. About a year ago, he wrote a very short proposal focused on early learning and school readiness. We struggle mightily here to keep any viable early learning opportunities going. We had a local nonprofit daycare that closed, then services were provided through Klamath County YMCA, but that facility ultimately closed. Paisley, Plush and Adel have integrated preschool to K-12 and North Lake School seems to be moving in that direction as well. We don't have the ability to build preschools from scratch, so Kindergarten Camps seemed like the best option. Each participating school district is taking their own

approach: Lakeview is planning a 2-week camp just before school starts and Paisley is planning for 1 day per week throughout the summer. It will be interesting to learn how each model works. Lake County is providing food for the Kindergarten Camps, the school districts are providing transportation, and Head Start is assisting with curriculum.

Ken noted that two preschools have started up through churches in Lakeview, but we have a long way to go. Vicky noted that in rural areas it's so important to think about numbers on programs. Klamath Family Head Start is facing a barrier to getting Early Head Start because of the program parameters with number of spots of required spots and an inability to move slots between slots due to program rules. The goal is to serve children prenatal to 5 because that's where we will really get school readiness. Krissi and Heidi took down information about the issue.

Gillian noted that Child Care Resource & Referral Network tried to have training for home-based providers and no providers showed up. She would welcome assistance with this issue.

Meera offered that they are currently focusing on oral health with cleanings and varnishings. She is looking forward to future partnerships and hoping to look at home visiting models. Krissi asked what Coordinated Care group we are with – Eastern Oregon.

Ken stated that the Preshool Promise thresholds for application were too high for our county to participate. Heidi noted that some school sites are starting up preschools to be able to meet those thresholds.

Krissi noted that many RACs started in one space of education and then after the partnership is built, thinking expands to other sectors of education.

6. Updates/information:

a. Discussion/Q&A on community assessment process and outcomes

Please see Equity Assessment under EL Hub Director Updates above.

b. Schools/School Readiness – Judy

i. Kindergarten Readiness/Family Engagement

Judy reported that from Jan 2015, to May 2016 they will have held 16 Kindergarten Readiness and 11 Family Engagement activities. They held events once a month for 12 months, then once a week for 9 weeks. All three Lakeview Kindergarten teachers are involved. Judy learned from Cynthia that they need to be using an evidence-

based curriculum. Vicky suggests Creative Curriculum, which is evidence-based. Cynthia noted that evidence-based is the goal the state wants us to be moving toward, research-based and developmentally appropriate are acceptable. Ready for Kindergarten is research-based. Cynthia also noted that the Parent Teacher Home Visiting training that is being offered is evidence-based. Judy said three of the four in her group will be participating in that training. Judy thinks this has been a good program as they have had parents come or have never been involved with the school. For the last event, they are planning to have the teachers as well as the secretaries present. One thing parents reported they appreciated about the event was being able to visit with other parents. Judy said the hardest part is getting parents who don't already have a relationship with the school to come. Vicky noted that having the kindergarten teachers visit Head Start in October seemed to make a positive difference in parents returning homework during the year and hopes it will make a positive difference in their follow through on summer packets.

ii. Kindergarten Roundup – May 11

At Kindergarten Roundup, they will be identifying students for Kindergarten Camp. Meera and Mindy coordinated with Judy and Mike about the date and time as they will be offering oral health screenings during Kindergarten Roundup.

c. Early Learning Partners

d. Public Health/Health Providers

i. Oral Health

Meera reported that they are happy to participate in Kindergarten Round Up not that legislation has changed and kids are required to have oral health screenings. She is working hard to educate parents about the importance of oral health, and reports Mindy has been phenomenal going all over the county to provide services at the schools. Mindy said she's excited to be involved. They do screenings, fluoride, and sealants. Meera reported that Public Health is doing the First Tooth program that works with preschool aged children, and CHIP is working on K-8th graders.

ii. Women's Health Ambassadors

Meera reported that CHIP has started a Women's Health Ambassador program with 10 ambassadors across the county. Ambassadors meet monthly with a group and use a discussion-based curriculum to learn from the ambassador and each other

about health issues. Food is provided. One of the ambassadors is a bilingual Head Start staff member who has 20 parents set up in her group. Meera noted that EL partners can capitalize on the reach of the ambassador groups for hub work if needed, especially for community/parent engagement.

iii. Mental Health

Vicky asked Ken about Mental Health since three staff have taken positions elsewhere. Ken said we have Kimberly Lindsay out of Heppner pulling things back together. The county is looking at contracting out supervision and management. Several years ago had talked to Charlie Tveit at the hospital about a common campus, and Tara now works there, so he is looking forward to further discussions. Kevin Campbell from GOBHI is highly engaged. They are working to hire new staff.

iv. North Lake Health Clinic

La Pine community health has taken over administration of the clinic and have hired a nurse from South Carolina to be a resident healthcare practitioner.

e. Early Learning Partners

Amy reported that they are scheduled for Early Learning Baby Showers in Paisley and Christmas Valley in May and Lakeview in June. The library works with Public Health to send invitations and reach underserved and non-library users. Eligible participants have had a baby within the last 15 months or a due date in the summer. Community organizations provide gifts, the library provides give away books, and introduces parents to the basics of the Every Child Ready to Read curriculum.

Vicky mentioned that the library Vroom launch events were successful. Amy explained to those not familiar that Vroom is an early learning app parents can use to receive developmentally appropriate daily activities do do with their children from birth to 5. She asked Gillian to give feedback to Vroom that one of the reasons the events were so successful was the printed activity cards for families that do not have smart phones or tablets. Krissi offered that there is also supposed to be a Bedtime Math app that is really fun and offers parents a way to engage math skills daily as well.

7. LICC meeting - Mike Benson

Mike presented a draft EI/ECSE County Plan noting that that some partners he wants to review the community plan were not present. The draft can be finalized at the next meeting. Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act procedures still out to DHS and will be revised as needed. Local Interagency Agreements will also be

covered more next month. In the Dispute Resolution section, there has never been a dispute to resolve, but he would look for assistance from his regional coordinator. Gillian noted that Douglas ESD does have a dispute resolution policy if he wishes to use that in the conflict resolution section. Some new questions or requirements in this year's plan:

a. Page 2 "other hard to reach families"

In last few years he has gotten an increasing number of referrals from Bend and La Pine clinics for North Lake families.

b. "How will IFSP services be delivered, when required, during any breaks?"

We have not yet had that situation happen, but if it did, the team would plan for provision of needed services.

c. Days of Service

Last year Head Start was going through summer so ECSE was a little longer. Right now the program is offering roughly 176 days of service – equivalent to school year.

d. Regional Services –

Mike is in the process of learning about provision of regional services since he has his first person that will need them over the summer.

e. New Format

Mike noted that he recently received a new format for the document so May's version will look different.

f. Budget

Mike reported that they are not sure what it will be, but they are currently projected to receive a \$1,400 increase next year.

Bob reported that the hospital and ESD are going to share a Speech/Language Pathologist position– 60% hospital and 40% ESD during the school year. This will provide some assistance to Mike and free up other staff for more autism work. Ken noted the hospital CEO is very broad-minded and believes in community health and reaches out to others.