

South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub Regional Governance Council

Monday, December 7, 2015
9:00 am – 10:00 am

Minutes

Council Members:

- Michael Lasher, *ESD Superintendent*
- Tim Freeman, *DC Governance Council*
- Jeremy Player, *KC Governance Council*
- Ken Kestner, *LC Governance Council*

Staff Present: Gillian Wesenberg, Nora Avery-Page (via phone), and Jessica Vaughn

Others Present: Pat Sublette, Amy Boivin (via phone), Vicky Taylor (V-tel), and Bob Nash (V-tel)

Topic	Discussion	Decisions/Action/Next Steps
Welcome/Introductions	<p>Michael Lasher convened the meeting at 9:10 AM.</p> <p>Introductions were made.</p>	
<i>Discussion topics</i>	<p><u>Role of Regional Governance Council</u></p> <p>Michael asked if council members would like to share, what they felt was the role of the Regional Governance Council. Council members agreed that the Regional Council should only meet periodically to check in with Hub staff and review progress on the Annual Work Plan and the Five Year Strategic Plan. Members would like to receive a one-page document from staff regularly to update the council on what each county is doing. They also said it is an opportunity for the other counties to learn from each other.</p>	<p>Michael will put together a set of principles to give a framework for funding.</p>

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	<p>Vicky Taylor said that it has been helpful for Lake County to know what Douglas County is doing so they are not reinventing the wheel.</p> <p>Ken Kestner said he feels like the Regional Council needs to be kept abreast of what is going on and to be a balancing act for all three counties.</p> <p><u>Distribution of Funds</u></p> <p>Michael shared that per request of the state Hub staff submitted an Annual Work Plan and a Five Year Strategic Plan on November 30. He said as of now, there is no contract from the state for the 15-17 biennium. Michael said that contracts were due from the state on December 3. Therefore, we do not know our funding.</p> <p>Michael asked the question – How do we come to a decision on how funds are decided?</p> <p>Amy Boivin said it is hard to address the distribution of funds without having the funding streams and the amounts in front of us.</p> <p>Tim Freeman asked members what they thought about coming up with principles. He said he believes a distribution formula would be a mistake. He would rather see a set of principles attached to the funding.</p> <p>Gillian said the funding is based on the one year plan and moving the metrics. The expectation of the state is to find children not already in early learning programs.</p> <p>Jeremy Player suggested the council wait until the Hub receives the contract before deciding on distribution of funds. He said he would like to explore other ways to find children other than those in the DHS system as DHS already has funding in place to help these children. Jeremy said he would not want to use funding in places there is already funding in place.</p> <p>Vicky agreed the Hub needs to look wider than the DHS population.</p>	

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	<p>Gillian shared that in December 2014, state told the Hub there were some Family Support Services funds available to the Hub, but they had to be expended by June 30, 2015. The Hub asked all three counties for proposals to expend the funds. Michael said the Regional Council met in January to review the Family Support Services grant proposals. He asked if this same process would be appropriate for distribution of future funds.</p> <p>Gillian said the funding is based on moving the metrics. Michael said that he would like to give all three counties ample time to respond to the proposals. In order to decide on funding, Michael suggested looking at the proposals from the lens of the Annual Work Plan.</p> <p>Bob Nash said he agreed with Michael. He said it mirrors how Douglas and Lake has interacted over the last year.</p> <p>Amy agreed that the services need to drive the metrics and one year plan.</p> <p>Tim said that again this brings it back to creating a set of principles, which would give a framework for the funding. Who has the capacity? Who can move the dial?</p> <p>Michael said he would put together a set of principles. He said the principles could serve as a guide since council members may change.</p> <p>Ken said he agreed with Tim and Michael and that the principles should reflect the core emphasis of the state.</p> <p>Amy agreed that it is a good plan.</p> <p><u>Update on programs</u></p> <p>Gillian said that Sue Parrish, our Early Learning Division facilitator, would like to give a one-hour overview and gather input from the Hub regarding Preschool Promise. She said that rural areas might be in the second wave.</p>	

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	<p>Michael said that Sue and Denise need to understand the needs of Southern Oregon. He said they have been receptive to feedback to date. Michael said it would be valuable for the Early Learning Division to hear the stories from our partners directly. He encouraged everyone to reach out to Sue.</p> <p>Gillian said that Douglas and Lake have been working together implementing the Kindergarten Readiness Partnership Innovation project and that they have recently met with Klamath partners.</p> <p>Tim said that the Early Learning Council is putting together a subcommittee to measure the successes of the Hubs. He said at the meeting this week they will also be accepting the Annual Work Plans and Five Year Strategic Plans. At the January meeting, they will be discussing Preschool Promise.</p> <p><u>Next meeting date</u></p> <p>Council members agreed to have scheduled quarterly meetings and recognized that they may need to have additional meetings as needs arise.</p> <p>The next meeting will be taking place in late February or early March to review funding principles. Jeremy and Amy agreed.</p>	
General Discussion	<p>Council members agreed they would like to receive updates from staff. They said just a one-pager that detailed what each county is doing. Members felt that this was a way the counties could learn from each other</p>	
Wrap-up	<p>Michael adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am.</p>	
Next meeting	<p>Late February or early March.</p>	<p>Hub staff will contact council members for next meeting date.</p>