

Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes

September 9, 2025

Minutes

Members present: Miranda Birchard, Laura Bjork, Megan Bollinger, Abby Bross, Adriana de la Cadena, Manuel Diaz, **Jamie Duffey**, Melissa Dunlay, Meredith Eilertson Azeem, Jessica Glenn, Jorge González Castro, Sasha Hiatt-Blenkush, **Dave Kerber**, Brianna Riofski, Adrianne Rysavy, Sabrina Silver, Ruku Viswanathan and Angie Wang

ISD 196 Staff present: Zachary Gonsioroski and Kristi Hanson

Call to Order

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

ECFS Program Overview – Zachary Gonsioroski

Enrollment & Waitlists

- 400 four-year-olds currently enrolled.
- Waitlists will begin to be reviewed at the end of September.
- Openings remain in Preschool Discovery.

ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education)

- 291 children enrolled, representing 231 families.
- A few classes are under-enrolled, with the 2s class notably very low.
- Family School: 48 children across three sections — all sections remain open.

Staffing

- Staffing levels are fully met at this time.

Curriculum & Implementation

- The Read Act is being implemented in 4-year-old and 3-year-old classrooms.
- Goal is to expand implementation into ECFE programming as well.

Committee Updates

Fundraising – Lead: Jessica

- Winter Family Fun Event: Scheduled for February 28, 9:30–11:30 a.m.
- Restaurant/Other Fundraisers: Options being considered include a clothing store and Davanni's. Committee will begin brainstorming additional ideas. Winter Activities: Logistics planning needed.

Hospitality – Lead: Melissa (Jessica joining the committee)

- Fall Conferences: October 29 and 30.
- Finalize a meal idea and bring back to the group. Options include soup & salad, taco bar, or baked potato bar.
- Reminder: When donated food is provided, note the source.
- Community Volunteer Option: To be discussed further at upcoming meeting.

Education & Planning – Lead: Sasha

- Updates forthcoming.

Legislative, Advocacy, and Policy – Lead: Sabrina (possible support from Mark)

- Updates forthcoming.

Auction – Lead: Brianna

- Exploring Megan’s site: Zeffy as a potential platform. Considering a change from current site.

Outdoor Spaces – Lead: Brianna

- Committee Update: Jorge added to committee.
- Backyard Bash: Scheduled for September 25, 2025, 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Family School – Lead: Abby

- Book Drive: Planning underway.

Liaison Updates

- None

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 16, 2025	Community Education Advisory Council – Melissa and Megan	DVLC	6:00-7:30 pm
Tuesday, September 26 2025	Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting - Megan AM and Angie PM	District Office – Dakota Room 3455 153 rd Street West., Rosemount	Group 1: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Group 2: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 1, 2025	196 Legislative Advisory Council – Mark and Sabrina	District Office 3455 153 rd Street West., Rosemount	6:00-7:30 pm
October 9, 2025	ECFS Foundation Meeting – Meredith and Jamie	DVLC	6:00-7:30 pm

Other Business

- Group Picture will be taken at the next meeting.
- Committee Meeting times
- Clean up/weed pulling at the Dakota Valley Learning Center
 - September 14, 2025 at 3:30 p.m.: Bring gloves, buckets, and tools. Put it outside the doors on the backwall against the building. Leave weeds in the space.
- Backyard Bash Update
 - Activities
 - Set up - 3:00pm for whoever can come
 - ECFE teachers will be available in rooms.
 - QR Code on flyer looking for volunteers - add donation code to the volunteer flyer -
 - Sign up volunteer slots
 - Social Media: Sabrina Silver

Adjournment

There being no further business Jamie Duffey made a motion to adjourn, Adrienne Rysavy seconded and full council approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates

2nd Tuesday, every month - October 14, 2025, November 11, 2025, December 9, 2025, January 13, 2026, February 10, 2026, March 10, 2026, April 14, 2026, and May 12, 2026

Respectfully submitted, Dacia Liszka