



Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes

January 13, 2026

Minutes

Members present: Adrienne Rysavy, Laura Bjork, Melissa Dunlay, **Jamie Duffey**, **Dave Kerber**, Abby Bross, Sasha Blenkush, Meredith Azeem, Miranda Birchard, Manuel Diaz, Megan Bollinger, Jessica Glenn, Brianna Riofski

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. Meredith seconded. Introductions were made.

Approval of October 14, 2025 minutes

Chairperson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 11, 2025 meeting and full council approved.

ECFS Program Overview

ECFE - Kristi Hanson

- Discussed upcoming Spring classes.
- It was requested that QR codes be added for donations and Winter Auction as well as adding note about childcare being provided during council meetings

ECFS - Zachary Gonsioroski

- Working on filling open positions
- Noted concerns include staffing capacity, preparation time, special education (SPED) availability, and the increasing need for SPED vs. general education settings.
- Discussed plans for transitioning Oakridge and possibilities for sites that are low on enrollment
- Preparing to open registration priority February 13 to March 14
- Discussion on current circumstances for families within our district and community
 - Looking at how we can help while following guidelines of the district
 - Food Shelf Collections
 - Collections for our families in particular
 - possible need of sub-committee

Liaison Updates

Community Education Advisory Council (November 18, 2025) - Melissa

- New ideas for community ed including typing and handwriting
- Budget review
- Discussion of sponsoring classes to provide funding for those unable to pay

Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting (November 18, 2025) - Megan & Laura

- Discussion of technology and have hit used
 - Council members suggested PTO visits where the district could discuss digital citizenship, how to set limits and how to set parental restrictions.
- Transportation concerns across the district
 - 17 drivers currently being trained

Foundation for Early Childhood Family Services (December 17) - Meredith

- Discussion of grants
- Discussion of Website
- Discussion of the need for a high dollar balance was brought up - will discuss further at a future meeting
- Dacia will need to be removed from accounts as she will be leaving her position
- Potential 'Angel Fund' was mentioned and will be brought to an upcoming meeting for voting
- Jamie will be bringing speaker purchase to the Foundation for a vote

Committee Updates

Fundraising – Lead: Adrienne

- Chipotle raised \$236.00
- Canes raised \$89.00 but they rounded up to \$100
- Suggested to look into Car Wash's and McDonald's
- Upcoming: Freddy's in April
- Meredith will work on getting poster together of previous Foundation purchases to display at the winter event.

Hospitality – Lead: Melissa

- Winter Conference Meal
 - 2:00 p.m. set up & 7:00 p.m. clean up
 - Soups, salad, and sandwiches on the menu
 - Will be sent out in early february for community to sign up

Education & Planning – Lead: Sasha

- April 7th 5:15 to 6:30 meeting set to plan for Fall Catalog

Legislative, Advocacy, and Policy – Lead: Sabrina and Mark

- No additional updates.

Outdoor Spaces – Lead: Brianna

- Planning to meet in March prior to Spring thaw
- Aiden (Scout Volunteer) sent an update and council requested a break down of price per two plan options

Family School – Lead: Abby

- Book Sort is planned for May 5th

Discussion

- **Winter Family Fun Event & Silent Auction - February 28th from 9:30-11:30**
 - Continue to reach out to businesses. If you are not able to contact ones that you put your name next to, remove your name so that someone else can contact
 - Put "Attn: ECFS Advisory Council" for mail in items
 - Adrienne will contact Anna about activities
 - Planning committee will order supplies for prizes, crafts, etc.
 - Jessica gave an update on the Silent Auction, please continue to bring baskets
 - Remember to send appreciation letter if items are donated
 - Laura will make a donor appreciation poster
 - Sabrina will work on social media thank you's
 - Sign-up genius for high school volunteers
 - Miranda has agreed to DJ - supplies and song list provided by previous DJ
 - Jamie and Melissa will request coffee for event
 - Zachary will request snacks

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 20, 2026	Community Education Advisory Council – Melissa and Megan	DVLC	6:00-7:30 pm
Tuesday, March 17, 2026 (Zoom)	Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting - Megan AM and Angie PM	Zoom	Group 1: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Group 2: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
March, 2026 TBD (Day at the Capital)? Wednesday, April 1, 2026	196 Legislative Advisory Council – Mark and Sabrina	District Office 3455 153 rd Street West., Rosemount	6:00-7:30 pm
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	ECFS Foundation Meeting – Meredith and Jamie	DVLC	6:00-7:30 pm

Adjournment

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

Future Meeting Dates

2nd Tuesday, every month - January 13, 2026, February 10, 2026, March 10, 2026, April 14, 2026, and May 12, 2026

Respectfully submitted, Jamie Duffey