



DISTRICT 196

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

One District. Infinite Possibilities.

Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes

April, 2026

Minutes

Members present: Adriana de la Cadena, Brianna Riofski, Jessica Glenn, Miranda Birchard, Meredith Eilertson Azeem, Hannah Sheridan, Manuel Diaz, Mark Breckenridge, Sasha Hiatt-Blenkush, Mark Riofski, Angie Wang, **Dave Kerber, Jamie Duffey**, Adrienne Rysavy, Melissa Dunlay, Laura Bjork

ISD 196 Staff present: Zachary Gonsioroski

Call to Order

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

Approval of March 10, 2026 minutes

Chairperson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2026 meeting and full council approved.

ECFS Program Overview - Zachary Gonsioroski

- Connections preschool update
 - Record breaking enrollment, working on upcoming schedules.
 - Working on priority placement window for Connections, offering placements 4s is nearly full aiming for 420. Added 70 kids from beginning of school year.
 - Afternoons are not popular. There are waitlists for Greenleaf & Emerald trail. 4s waitlist: 60 kids not able to place for full day and the rest are Green Leaf & Emerald Trail. 3s waitlist ~ 40kids. Considering rethinking staffing structure or float staff depending on needs. Anna's replacement was filled. Lisa Parins will be the new instructional coach. Kristi Hanson is retiring this year. Position will be opening up.

Legislative Advisory Council Liaison Update – Mark

- Bills reviewed: allowing teachers out of state regarding mobility, anti-grooming policy, cell phone bills, funding regarding land-based areas and where money is allocated – requesting for that funding to go back to the schools, bus route changes discussed

Superintendent Parent Leader Liaison Update – Laura

- Discussed how to analyze when there is a school shutdown from a threat, typically threats are non-credible situations, timing was hard to determine credibility and thorough considerations are done with threats.
- Construction roles are being reviewed for kids.
- Transportation updates were changed to “opt in” to check “yes”. They will eliminate busing for most magnet schools, dividing district, Cedar Park & Glacial Hills will continue some busing. Special Ed busing may change. Woodland and East Lake to late start schools for 2026-2027 school year.
- Student survey regarding future and safe feeling. Every student had an increase. Cyber bullying had an increase. Larger population of students reported spending too much time on social media and that it impacts their school or afterschool activities. Midnight to 5am use

Community Education Advisory Council Liaison Update - Melissa

- Catalog and issues with the catalog, they are looking for community ed teachers.
- Parenting conference first Saturday in November. There will be a speaker and breakout sessions. 8-1.
- Discussed community needs assessment. High satisfaction, neighboring people coming to our district, many without kids are using. People want more non-school and summer options.
- Want to expand options for sensory needs and inclusivity.
- New vice chair was voted in.
- Starry night gala looking for volunteers and event is May 2nd.

Foundation Update – Zachary

- Grants were approved.

Committee Updates:

- Family School Book Drive - Meredith
 - May 5th, anyone can come to help
- Education and Planning Meeting - Sasha
- Spanish speaking class, low attendance with winter and local events, technology was discussed, support behavior parent – what’s next and teaming up with community ed and bridging the gap and funding
- Hospitality - Melissa
 - May 4th packing & May 5th distributing. Baskets for teachers offsite and then onsite will have trail mix themed baskets
- Fundraising - Adrienne
 - Maleku: group discussed that a monthly option was a good idea.
 - **\$86.13** (15% of \$574.18)
 - Beirut potentially next month
- Outdoor Committee
 - Group text when you are planning to weed if anyone is planning to join for backyard spaces
 - Update from Aiden & discussed plans for landscaping/nature play area. Put out a request for members to gather bid requests from community businesses. Would like to get mulch done on project.
- Open House Backyard Event - Backyard Bash
 - Joint effort between Hospitality & Outdoor Spaces Committees.
 - Planning was discussed for the upcoming event for the next school year briefly during the meeting to have the same flow as it did in Fall 2025.
 - o Picked date Thursday Sept 24, 2026. (Sept 25 is a day off)
- End of Year Picnic
 - invite foundation members
 - May 30, Saturday 9:30-11:30 Rain or Shine morning meet on back playground to have picnic
- Committee Sign Ups for 2026-2027 next month
- Fundraising Lead position will be open
- Bidding Owl Lead will be open
- Social Media Lead Open
- Recorder & Back Up Recorder
- *New Graphic Designer
- Liaison positions all typically alternate between meetings

2027-2027 Recruitment

- Please send out application in your network to recruit new members
- Discussed creating an infographic to highlight the work we do and potentially creating a marketing role or marketing committee

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 27, 2025	ECFS Foundation Meeting – Jamie & Meredith	DVLC	6:00-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 19, 2025	Superintendent Parent Leader Meeting – Megan (a.m.) & Laura (p.m.)	Zoom	Group 1: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Group 2: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 19, 2025	Community Education Advisory Council – Melissa & Megan	DVLC	6:00-7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 27, 2025	196 Legislative Advisory Council - Mark	District Office	6:00-7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business Adriana De La Cadena made a motion to adjourn, Melissa Dunlay seconded and full council approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates

2nd Tuesday, every month May 12, 2026

Respectfully submitted, Brianna Riofski