Tacoma Public Schools
Head Start Policy Council

Policy Council Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2026 (STAR Center)

Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m.

Roll Call - The following sites were represented at the meeting:
20 sites with elected members, 4 sites in attendance (20%)

- Franklin (Rep. Alt.)
- Larchmont (WSA Rep.)
- Lister (Rep.)
- Mann (Rep.)
- PC Chair

Approval of April's Minutes
Motion made by Mann Rep. to approve April's meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Franklin Rep. Motion approved.

WSA Report
The WSA Rep**.** reported on results from a survey to evaluate the impact of immigration enforcement actions on Head Start programs. This survey was sponsored by the Washington Association of Head Start and ECEAP, along with Pennsylvania and Wisconsin Head Start associations. 52% of program leadership reported at least one instance of ICE activity near their facility within the last 12 months, with 6.3% specifically noting activity during vulnerable pick-up and drop-off times. The survey also showed a 7% unenrollment rate due to immigration fears, while 14% of directors faced definitive delays in new student registrations. Head Start programs in Washington, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin were surveyed. See the WSA Head Start & ECEAP page for more details about this survey.

Natasha Williams is the WSA Rep. Please connect with Natasha if you are interested in learning more about how to advocate for Early Learning.

Director's Report

Staffing: All positions, except for Mann 47 lead teacher, are filled. We will be hiring for Mann during the summer. Any parents interested in participating in interviews should email Karen Thompson.

Enrollment: Enrollment is full. Thank you to the enrollment team.

Attendance: Flu season is coming to an end and attendance percentages are rising again.

IEPs: The program is well over its 10% IEP requirement. At the end of April there were 59 students identified as needing services.

ECEAP Contractor: For the 26-27 school year, the district will be its own ECEAP contractor. ECEAP and Head Start parents will have a joint Policy Council next school year.

Budget Report
The operational budget, which includes salaries, benefits, and discretionary (supplies & services) was shared with the Council. Training budget was also shared. A credit card report showing charges for April 2026 was reviewed.

Policies to Review for Next Month
The Field Trip policy and Mental Health Services policy were given to members for review. These two policies will be on the June agenda as action items.

Component Reports

Family-Community: If any families are having difficulty with the online application process, please visit us in-person at the Early Learning administration office and we will assist with the application. FRIAs will be wrapping up tasks for the year. They will be reaching out to families regarding goals, DECA (end-of-year post ratings), and transition conferences on an as needed basis.

Heath: Students turning four will need to get their 4-year old shots (immunizations). There are immunization clinics available if you are unable to get an appointment with your medical provider. Also, if your child needs a well-child exam, please make the appointment as soon as possible since many providers are scheduling months out. All parents are invited to join the Health and Mental Health Committee meeting immediately following the June PC meeting. This will be an in-person gathering of staff,

parents, and community partners to gather information on which health topics are important and of interest to families.

Education: Teachers are finishing checkpoints (spring assessment) and results will be shared with parents. Everyone will receive information on the progress their child has made from fall to spring. Students moving on to kindergarten will be getting a kindergarten packet. The last family gathering for all classrooms will be on Monday, June 15th.

In-kind

Stanley was the winner for the most inkind for April and the most improved was Larchmont. Parents should check out Ready Rosie as it has videos of fun activities parents and kids can do together. Ready Rosie also counts as inkind.

Share Out

No share-outs at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.