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Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date: May 19, 2025

Community Meeting

Attendance: Tabytha Carr, Lincoln Brewer, Amy Wible, Mason Strouse, Alicia Brocious, Heather Webber, Amy Cormier, Tiffany Ricotta, Mark Arneman, Alycia Wolf, Joel Albert, Brittany Ondish, Jessica Roussey, Madison Washell, Deymi Cabrera, Tessa Folino, Mina Anderson, Chris Grubb, Robin Shomo

Absent: Jamye Miller, Krysta Mulroy, Destiny Nies, Tammy Parks, Chesney Boal, Ronald Gallagher, Stephanie Tafe, Jessica Bloom, Miranda Zimmerman, William Elensky, Hannah Hartsock

Notice of Quorum: A quorum was present.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:00 AM

Meeting Rules:

- Respect others' opinions and suggestions.
- Listen with an open mind.
- Allow participants the opportunity to speak and finish their thoughts.
- Begin/end meetings on time.
- Be attentive at the meeting (limit cell phone use, avoid "side-bar conversations", stay focused).

Seating of new members: None

Termination of Members: Shania Leigey

A motion to terminate Shania Leigey was made by Alycia Wolf. Second by Heather Webber. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Approval to approve April Meeting Minutes was made by Alycia Wolf. Second by Amy Cormier. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Given by: Tabytha Carr, Parent Engagement Coordinator.

An explanation of the budget report was given to the representatives. The current balance of the Policy Council budget is \$882.53.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Alycia Wolf. Second by Heather Webber. Motion carried.

Service Area Training: Family Community Partnerships with Mason Strouse, Family Community Partnership Director

Mason discussed that families are the most important teachers for a child. We work hard to build positive relationships with families and staff. Children do better when connected. We work with families on medical, dental, physical health, etc. resources. We have an online resource book for each county. We are looking at ways to keep this book updated ongoing.

A motion to accept the Service Area training was made by Heather Webber. Second by Amy Cormier. Motion carried.

Center Reports:

A parent shared that her child's teacher at Philipsburg has done so many great things year-round. They recently did a butterfly release, the children loved it.

CPI took a field trip to Horticulture to plan marigolds for Mother's Day

Joel from the board stated that movie nights will be starting at the farm. More information will be shared on Class Dojo.

Committee updates:

Tabytha provided details about each committee and what that committee reviews/discusses

Mental Health and Health Advisory- Amy updated the group that we recently became a health and safety consultant for the ELRC.

Education/Special Services-no updates

Interview/Personnel-ongoing

Family & Community Partnership-Mason informed the group that we are offering a big kids day event during Heritage Days in Philipsburg on July 9-11th from 11-3:00. We will have Exotic Edventures-an animal show, photo booth, arts, and crafts

Building/Center-no updates

PBIS Leadership Team-meeting information will be shared on Class Dojo

Recruitment/Enrollment-no updates

Budget Committee-no updates

Parent Engagement-no updates

Bylaw-no updates

Old Business

Reported Child Incidents (updates from regional office)

Amy reported that we heard from the regional office that our incident was closed. We have not had any incidents to report.

New Business

Director's Report

Hires and Separations- Hires and Separations were reported to date.

HS and EHS Budget Report: All representatives received a copy of the HS, HSSAP and EHS budget. Amy Wible, Senior Leader, explained the reports and where we are at this point in the year.

Statistics/Program Information/Attendance Reports: A copy was given to all representatives. Tiffany explained the report to the Policy Council and encouraged the council to look over the report and ask questions.

Credit Card Expenses: A summary of the credit card expenditures was given to the council and signed by Tammy Parks, Chairperson.

Enrollment/Recruitment:

Tabytha provided updates regarding enrollment and that we have stopped enrolling preschool children for the 24-25 school year. We are within 30 days of the last day of class. We are still seeking children for Early Head Start and Family Centers. We continue to offer our parent incentive. Amy informed the group that we have not received approval for our 25-26 budget that was submitted. She explained that there has been regional office restructuring and there has been a small delay.

Amy informed the group that we received a letter from the regional office stating we met 97% enrolled as part of our federal enrollment initiative. We were at 97% in March and reached 99% for April.

A motion to approve the Director's report was made by Mark Arneman. Second by Heather Webber. Motion carried.

Parent Engagement

Volunteer Recognition Training Dinner-Tabytha discussed the volunteer recognition training dinner on May 30th and encouraged representatives to reach out by the end of the day if they' didn't RSVP and wished to attend.

Delgrosso Days-Tabytha discussed that Delgrosso Days are being held June 18th and June 19th. Each center is to attend on their designed day. The deadline to request discount coupons is May 23rd. We will have sunscreen available at pavilion #4 for those who may need it. Tabytha announced that the board of directors approved to offer \$7 food cards to all individuals who submit a discount coupon at the ticket window. Parents/guardians will need to use a discount coupon at any ticket window at the park to purchase a ride or ride/slide pass. When that purchase is redeemed the food card will be given.

Updates

PBIS-None

Data/Goals/ Community Report Card-we finished the 3rd assessment period. Information is being reviewed, analyzed and will be shared.

Information Memorandums-Amy discussed an IM about parent engagement and increasing availability. Directors have a meeting this week to discuss in more detail.

School Readiness/Kindergarten Readiness-None

PFCE Framework-None

Confidentiality breaches/legal proceedings/reports to authorities-none

Classroom closures-None.

Open Topics

Advocacy-Amy notified the group that we receive information requests daily for Head Start and Early Head Start advocacy. The Head Start community was concerned when the presidents first budget had mentioned the elimination of Head Start. A proposed budget has been released, however there is no mention of a budget for Head Start (flat funded, increased, or decreased). Tomorrow is a big day for advocacy. A letter is being sent to the president for endorsements for Head Start. Amy explained that our advocacy work will continue to be important over the next few months. She took a moment to thank everyone who has advocated thus far. She explained that Head Start has been a bi partisan and researched based program. We must continue to share why Head Start is so important. Amy also provided additional information about lobbying and advocating. She explained that lobbying is when you are asking for a law to change. In this circumstance we are not asking for a law to be changed. We are advocating, continuing to educate others why these programs are so important.

Adjournment: 11:11 AM

A motion to adjourn was made by Heather Webber. Second by Amy Cormier. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting: June 16, 2025, at 10:00AM

Respectfully Submitted By: Tabytha Carr