

SUMMARY MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE JULY 28 MEETING



PRESCHOOL COORDINATOR ADVISORY GROUP (PCAG)

SUMMARY

April 21, 2022

PRESENT: Whitney Stevenson, Kristy Lewis, Monica Heavrin, Carla Malone, Carlana Sheeran, Jennifer Walrod, Whitney Fowler, Greta Stanfield, Miranda Reed, Cymbre Crisologo

SUMMARY

Agenda Item: Welcome/Roll Call

Presenter: Whitney Stevenson, PCAG Chair, Associate Director of Early Childhood, Fayette County Public Schools

Summary of Discussion:

Roll call was completed, and it was determined to be a quorum.

Agenda Item: Welcome

Presenter: Andrea Bartholomew, School Readiness Branch Manager, Division of IDEA Implementation and Results, Office of Special Education and Early Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Bartholomew welcomed the group, thanked everyone for their participation and shared that the council would go into virtual breakout rooms and thanked everyone for their patience as we tried this for the first time.

Agenda Item: Review of Norms

Presenter: Kristy Lewis, PCAG Co-Chair, Paducah Independent Public Schools/Paducah Head Start

Summary of Discussion:

Lewis reviewed the purpose of the group and the group norms.

Agenda Item: Review and Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

Presenter: Whitney Stevenson, PCAG Chair, Associate Director of Early Childhood Fayette County Public Schools

Summary of Discussion:

Stevenson shared time for the group to review the last meeting minutes. The minutes were approved upon the motion of Kristy Lewis, seconded by Jennifer Walrod. All members were in agreement.

Agenda Item: Committee discussions in the breakout rooms/Sharing out from committees

Presenter: Monica Heavrin, Priority Setting Committee, Director of Early Childhood, Grayson County Public Schools and Jennifer Walrod, Executive Committee, Director of Early Childhood, Scott County Public Schools

Summary of Discussion: Upon reconvening from the breakout session, the two committees shared the topics of discussion. Heavrin shared that the Priority Setting Committee prioritized the following issues as the focus of our upcoming work: better communication between First Steps and districts, seeking more ways the Council can help relieve the workload of the preschool teachers, more variety in assessment measures which allows teachers to tie what they are doing in the classroom and the curriculum measures that come with their programs, if not an accepted measure already, and finally, creative ways to involve parents, allowing flexibility with home visits and ways we can meet the needs of the families.

Walrod shared the Executive Committee highlights. They discussed term limits. At this point, the term limit is two years. The committee felt as though our first year was more of a planning term, so it was decided that the current members will have a three-year term, with two more years to go, while new members will serve two-year terms. Meeting dates were discussed, moving the time to 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with as many people in person as possible. The last Thursday of the month seemed to work with everyone and the best months to meet were determined to be January, April, July, and October. Finally, the group discussed the need for bylaws and shared them to help guide next steps.

Agenda Item: Discussion on recruitment effort

Presenters: Whitney Stevenson, PCAG Chair, Associate Director of Early Childhood Fayette County Public Schools

Summary of Discussion: Stevenson brought up a prior request of a statewide push from KDE for child find and enrollment. She shared that it never came to fruition due to COVID-19 numbers rising in the spring, however if needed, the push could come later. At this point, our numbers are going up from the prior year.

Agenda Item: Discussion on Child Outcomes Summary Process

Presenters: Jennifer Riley, School Readiness Branch, Office of Special Education and Early Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Riley shared an overview of the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) coming to Infinite Campus (IC) next fall. The state will no longer contract with the Kentucky Early Childhood Data System (KEDS) and will use this summary, which was created by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), to provide powerful analysis of data, rich conversations, and lead to improved results. She shared that a rating system of 1 to 7 will be logged in to IC after these rich discussions.

Agenda Item: Discussion on new preschool standards

Presenters: Lynn Baker, Project Specialist/Acting Director Kentucky Head Start Collaborative Office, Governor's Office of Early Childhood

Summary of Discussion: Baker shared that the new standards will be released on June 21 and 22 during the Early Childhood Institute at the Galt House. She shared that the work has been going on for some time, however the release date allowed all the pieces to be put in place beforehand. Kentucky Interactive did the revisions. Baker shared that the standards will be available on any technology platform, including phones, iPads and other devices. The state is also revising the parent guides. These guides will now be called family guides and will not look like any other guide that's been incorporated before with more family friendly language.

Agenda Item: Discuss and vote on future meeting dates

Presenters: Whitney Stevenson, PCAG Chair, Associate Director of Early Childhood Fayette County Public Schools

Summary of Discussion: Meeting dates were discussed. Monica Heavrin made a motion to adopt the recommendations of the Executive Committee for the next school year, beginning in October 2022, having meetings on the last Thursday of the month, in the months of January, April, July and October. Jennifer Walrod seconded the motion. All members were in agreement. It also was discussed that the July meeting will be in conjunction with the Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA) conference in Louisville. Joe McCowan and Andrea Bartholomew will check into making the arrangements for a meeting room for the July 2022 meeting.

Agenda Item: Closing Remarks and Exit Slip

Presenter: Andrea Bartholomew, School Readiness Branch Manager, KDE Division of IDEA Implementation and Results, Office of Special Education and Early Learning

Summary of Discussion:

Bartholomew thanked the group again and took any questions. A question was posed about how the borderless districts would work. The OSEEL team is looking into if and how the new law will affect preschool.

The group adjourned upon the motion of Monica Heavrin and was seconded by Kristy Lewis.

Next meeting date: July 28, 2022 from 10 a.m. to noon with the possibility of a change in location and time.

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