

Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance - Meeting Minutes

Date: September 17, 2009

Time: 9-4

Location: Red Rocks Community College

Attendance: Jon Paul Bianchi, Pat Bolton, Stacy Buchanan, Lucinda Burns, Emily Bustos, Ashante Butcher, Danielle Butler, Jeanine Coleman, Gretchen Davidson, Meg Franko, Jildi Gentry-Chacon, Joan Grant, Sandy Gregory, Elizabeth Groginsky, Kris Ingram, Cathy James, Joyce Johnson, Sharon Kelly, Judy Kile, Teresa Mathews, Vangi McCoy, Libby Mueggenburg, Sudy Opsahl, Pamela Piekarski, Janine Pryor, Scott Raun, Cathryn Reiber, Kathy Reinhardt, Stacy Ricker, Kris Robledo, Angela Rothermel, Judy Rusher, Sheryl Sushan, Michele Solecki, Tracy Sperry, Bev Thurber, Sharon Triolo-Moloney, Tamara Volz, Pam Walker, Sheila Watson, Wendy Watson, Barbara West

Guests: Lynn Andrews-Clayton Early Learning

Absent: Anne Fitzpatrick, Holly Jacobson, Sherri Valdez

Topic	Discussion/Findings	Conclusions/Recommendations	Actions/Follow-up
Business Meeting	<p>Legislative/ECSR Commission Update-The commission is looking at some legislation; CCAP is a big emergent theme in the commission; they are looking at blended funding streams and how to free up CCAP money for CPP and head start to serve a child through an entire day; eligible activity rules are being looked at; funding is difficult but looking at a regional pilot program for eligibility; at the Oct 22 commission meeting the commission will be voting on specific bills they will be working on; they are open to suggestions; make connections with your legislators who are commission members; there has been discussion about creating a PreK-1 or 3 degree; the commission is looking at raising the quality of existing half day kindergarten programs; a report is being developed to show what would happen to the achievement gap and graduation rates if CPP were eliminated</p> <p>Steering Committee Report- The steering committee meets by phone to plan agendas and other things that come up periodically; contact your steering committee if things come up in between meetings; important to know who the steering committee is so that you can address any concerns you may have; the steering committee is the ECCLA co-chairs, subcommittee chairs and Joyce and Wendy</p> <p>Election of new co-chairs-does anyone have any questions about the role of the co-chair Nominations-Bev Thurber from Larimer County; Kris Ingram from El Paso County-declined the nomination; Sheila Watson from Weld County; Janine Pryor from Chaffee County</p> <p>Evaluation Task Force-looked at system evaluations that are already out there; also talked about DU and Carl Larson and Darrin Hicks; Meg and Wendy met with Darrin about systems outcomes and how to demonstrate them-he gave support on use of tools to measure program outcomes</p> <p>Evaluation is critical and ongoing and should be a committee and not a task force</p>	<p>New co-chairs are: Bev Thurber & Sheila Watson</p> <p>Should we make the evaluation task force a standing committee? Motion passed to make evaluation a standing</p>	<p>Make suggestions to commission members who are your legislators on legislation for them to focus on.</p>

Topic	Discussion/Findings	Conclusions/Recommendations	Actions/Follow-up
	<p>It might be a good idea to annually have committee chairs talk about the current work of the committee and offer a chance to change committees</p> <p>External Committee Involvement Reports ECCAT-Sandy Gregory did a presentation for Douglas County and Bobby Watson presented for Boulder County; the presentations that have been given have been invaluable-they create great discussions; ECCAT is focusing on different policy themes emerging-resource development and diversification of funding-Alison Birchard is working on case studies; Pueblo and Washington, Yuma, Kit Carson are presenting at the next meeting-no councils have signed up beyond November-email Jeanine Coleman and get scheduled to present at ECCAT; the term for ECCAT members is 2 years and the term is coming up in December-Jeanine sent a formal letter describing the nomination process-the time commitment is that the team is meeting once a month (sometimes they get cancelled) and they always meet in Denver with a small amount of work in between meetings; talk to people in your council about ECCAT nominations ABCD-see written report EC Summit-ECSR commission update; funding update; race to the top update; P-3 content standards update and the process to date; reviewed the survey results of the summit and they have decided they need a focused agenda looking for examples of policy agendas get them to Emily Bustos or Pamela Piekarski Help Me Grow-not officially met yet-there will be an update next time</p>	<p>committee and org structure a task force.</p>	<p>Talk to people in your council about ECCAT nominations</p> <p>Get any examples you may have of policy agendas to either Emily Bustos or Pamela Piekarski</p>
<p>LG's Office Staff Presentation</p>	<p>Jeanine Coleman stated that there are additional copies of the EC Framework available today for pick-up. Also, if you e-mail Jeanine, she may be able to get you another poster, the cost of which is \$32. Finally, reminded everyone of the event tomorrow; about 2/3 of the attendees are planning to be there. LG will do the opening remarks, Bruce Perry, MD will be the keynote. Sandy Gregory also noted that there will be a resource table available. There will be about 220 participants. Also asked for additional presentations from councils.</p> <p>Elizabeth Groginsky- presented information about Race to the Top application. There are 4 major assurance areas that are part of the grant application. The LG's office has been holding a series of "water cooler" meetings regionally. Would like to have 75-100 people at each meeting. LG. Gov & CDE Commissioner are committed to having an early childhood component to this application. Final guidance is expected in late October; the application is due in December. Expect work being done now to tie into the Early Learning Challenge grant. Document that has been passed out is to "get everyone on the same</p>		

Topic	Discussion/Findings	Conclusions/Recommendations	Actions/Follow-up
	<p>page,” and includes a strong emphasis on data collection & usage, especially in the areas of assessment.</p> <p>Another area is re: turning around low-performing schools. \$300-500 million over 3-4 years. Emphasis on sustainable change- infrastructure changes that won't need large infusions of cash over time.</p> <p>Finally, teacher performance- tied to student outcomes. Collecting data on teacher preparation, individual student learning (schoolview.org), etc.</p> <p>Center for Early Childhood Assessment- actually writing the application (Beverly Buck)</p> <p>Local communities are encouraged to use the document and process to engage stakeholders in contributing ideas for the application. Ideas have to be focused on the reformation of education- bold action is encouraged. There are questions in each section that you can use to generate discussion & ideas. There is also a template for public input handed out today (Elizabeth will send to Joyce for distribution electronically.) The template includes things like the criteria states will be judged by, as well as the requirements of the participating school districts.</p> <p>LG's office will be collecting information on EC pieces of application and putting the recommendations forward to the larger group writing the proposal. Those recommendations may or may not ultimately be part of the actual application.</p> <p>Jeanine asked group if they've been getting e-mails & were generally aware of this opportunity. Group stated that yes, they were aware. Pamela Piekarski stated that a visual representation of how this work fits into everything else a Council is doing would be very helpful. Jeanine Coleman also suggested that talking about real-life examples is most helpful for those working in the field every day. Lucinda also stated that identifying key folks in communities who could speak to the assurance areas & asking them to help with idea generation. That way, the entire council is not being asked to participate, but specific individuals are. The opportunity for Councils is to link and align to the K-12 system. “Your state needs you.” Pat Bolton stated that it is not always the Council coordinator's role to be at all the tables; someone else from your council may be able to take this role on.</p> <p>CO Trust Health Integration Grant-Gretchen is collecting questions people may have about the grant and she will take them to the CO Trust</p>		<p>Engage stakeholders in contributing ideas for the Race to the Top application. (see materials sent via email-contact Tracy if you did not get them)</p>

Topic	Discussion/Findings	Conclusions/Recommendations	Actions/Follow-up
Next Steps for EC Colorado Framework	<p>Bev Thurber and Janine Pryor represented ECCLA at a meeting to narrow down the results we want to achieve-3-5 specific results we want to achieve</p> <p>5 results as a state we want to reach are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increase number of children meeting developmental milestones to promote school readiness 2. decrease gaps in school readiness and academic achievement between populations of children 3. increase parent engagement and leadership at program, community, and policy levels 4. increase number of children who live in safe, stable, and supportive families 5. increase number of children who receive a medical home approach <p>This is the framework in action.</p>		
Clayton Institute's Family, Friend, Neighbor Project	<p>Presentation by Lynn Andrews (get power point) www.aplaceofourown.org</p> <p>If you are not a community where a workshop is scheduled and you are interested please let Lynn know.</p> <p>Want feedback of resources for recruiting participants for workshops</p> <p>A list of presenters was passed out (get that list)</p> <p>A new RFP for Mile High United Way partners is available</p>		
Small Group Discussion-The Council Coordinator Role Across Colorado	<p>Get list of discussion questions from Cathryn Reiber</p> <p>RRR-the group had many commonalities despite some unique challenges; school performance/school readiness challenges; enjoyed small group work; together we're stronger than any one</p> <p>Mountain-lots of similarities, especially regarding challenges; ID'd key issues/strategies-fiscal agent</p> <p>Metro-new coordinator & veteran coordinator perspectives; support from everyone-Facilitative Leadership training was helpful for new coordinators; balancing multiple relationships; need to be able to "think quickly;" self-care & need to develop leadership; look at high turnover rate of coordinators-exit interview; training on succession & planning; need to demonstrate what we're doing</p> <p>High Plains-different boundaries being served; balancing relationships; big picture thinking; ways to support each other</p> <p>Urban-spent time getting to know each other; high population areas versus rural; council/structure/staffing patterns; top 3-5 funding sources-blended funding</p>		

Topic	Discussion/Findings	Conclusions/Recommendations	Actions/Follow-up
<p>Updates from State Staff</p>	<p>Toolkit Presentation-this is a fabulous place to share our resources-we need to make this site a habit; anyone with an active account can post to the toolkit (see instruction sheet from Gretchen)</p> <p>2009 Kids Count copies were distributed-the children’s campaign website has it online with interactive tools to manipulate data</p> <p>Touchpoints training 1st week of October-still have space available please register</p> <p>Regional meetings-October 14-16 & 19 assigned to certain meetings but it isn’t set in stone; save the date flier will be going out; 3-4 are invited from each council, the coordinator, someone from the health domain, other leadership from your council-this is an opportunity to have the systems conversation</p> <p>Standards work at CDE-the standards were sent to Sharon Lynn Kagen for review-CDE will be sending an executive summary of her findings. Be on the lookout for that-revised standards will be reviewed and up for public comment in October and up for vote in November-let Sharon know if you know of anyone interested in being involved in the process</p> <p>Survey about ECCLA meetings-results were shared</p> <p>There are 4 councils Joyce is communicating with about final budget approvals. They should know who they are. If you have not heard anything about your budget contact Joyce right away.</p> <p>September 30 United Way of Weld County Business Roundtable with keynote by Bill Millett October 1-Adams County Summit October 2-Early Childhood Options Luncheon with Dr. Lillian Katz keynote October 2-Race to the Top Water Cooler meeting in Weld County November 14-Gunnison Valley Early Childhood Conference with special guest-Scott Raun</p> <p>Sandy Gregory will be sharing the results of the Public Engagement survey with Susan Steele and asking her about next steps in the process. Thank you to all who participated.</p>	<p>Contact Wendy for content issues and Tracy for password issues.</p> <p>Check with coordinator’s before scheduling specific locations.</p>	<p>Use the toolkit often</p> <p>See save the date flier for dates and locations and RSVP by Oct. 8 to Tracy</p> <p>Contact the local coordinator for more information</p>