



Educational Equity Committee

June 23, 2022

10 am-11:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 487 642 8933

Purpose of Meeting: The Southern Oregon Early Learning Hub's Agency Advisory Council has identified educational preparedness for young children of color in Southern Oregon as a priority focus area. We are convening partners representing early learning, K-12 education, high education, health sector and culturally specific family-serving organizations to drive this work forward. Families with lived experience will guide our work.

Attendees: Eileen Micke-Johnson, Younghee Kim, Elise Travertini

Hub Staff: René Brandon, Teresa Slater, Vicki Risner

Link to Shared Vision Statement:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11C97TVQvNs-wUuHp8ITtNaJzsKe7_zCg/view?usp=sharing

Agenda

Welcome, Partner Updates:

Elise Travertine, La Clinica: We're adding 3 new health centers in schools including a great one at the new elementary school in Central Point with a one-way mirror to facilitate observations of children. Staff has been hired.

Eileen Micke-Johnson, RCC: Early Learning escaped budget cuts this round. Lots of positions were cut throughout the school. There will be more cuts later. RCC has a new president, Randy Weber.

Younghee Kim: Had a great online graduation. John King is leaving. He will be missed. Our division is getting larger, adding the health, PE, military services, English and foreign language departments. We really like our new President, Rick Bailey. He's been very involved and attending meetings and graduations.

Kaleidoscope Play and Learn Groups (KPL):

Teresa: We held a training for new KPL facilitators KPL. 7 people attended, 6 of which are committed and ready to go. Oasis will have a group, we are also talking with the Housing Authority about expanding sites. Hoping to set one up at their Concord site. We have groups now at Jacksonville Presbyterian, Life Path in Gold Hill, Prospect School and one in Josephine County with location to be determined. We have been working to find new facilitators and locations. Often, they expand to a second group after a few months, due to demand from families. We haven't found a Spanish speaking facilitator yet, so please send anyone interested our way.

Community Space for family engagement:

The Hub is working with the Family Nurturing Center to secure a community space in Josephine County that would be accessible for groups like Kaleidoscope, family support groups, other partner needs to bring families together to utilize. Lisa O'Connor with Family Nurturing Center is very interested in doing something similar for Jackson County. Martha Rivera, Doulas & Co., is also promoting a community space that is available for partners. Peter Buckley with Southern Oregon Success and the Family Connection are working together to provide funding to lease the space so that it would be available at no charge to partner organizations.

Review of SOELS Family Survey Results

René shared the summary for Family Survey. Reviewed who we talked to and what we learned. See attachment. If you would like to see the actual surveys, please reach out to René.

Younghee: We thought this was true, but this is evidence that it true. Good to know. We have a lot of families that need services and more access. Especially children experiencing disabilities. Eileen: It's nice to have the hard data. It's such a representative sample. Elise: This marries very well into the SORS network meeting I attended. Important that the whole county/region sees this as an important issue and to let families know that the counties are looking at improving supports for families. It would be nice to do this survey every couple of years as a health check of our families and check back with the same families.

The Hub is reviewing this summary with each committee and inviting partners to identify what steps they can take to be responsive to the families.

Review of Belonging Survey for teachers and families in early learning programs

René reviewed the Sense of Belonging Survey that was drafted for the last meeting. We will be asking child care center directors to share it with all of their staff midyear next year, maybe January or February.

Since that meeting, CCRN sent out another survey to center directors asking them if they wanted to get together as a peer leadership group, when and how that would look like. We hope to send this survey out to them in the fall to get their participation. We will introduce the Sense of Belonging Survey at one of the director meetings to get feedback and buy-in.

Once we have surveyed center staff and have had time to offer support to directors with strategies to increase sense of belonging for ALL staff, we will introduce a survey for families of children in care. This will be ongoing data we collect to gauge progress over time. This is one strategy for increasing retention of staff and increasing family satisfaction with care.

Meeting schedule and committee membership

René: I would like to send out an invitation and Doodle poll to folks to see if there is a better times or days to get more involvement. Let René know if there are people you might think would be good for this group.

Recommendations included: Cecilia Hurt, Kate Dwyer at Four Way Community Foundation covering rural Josephine Counties, Lisa O'Connor and/or someone from Family Nurturing Center, Liso, Kids Unlimited, Southern Oregon Head Start, Project Baby check or Healthy Families in Josephine Counties, representation from Illinois Valley.

NOTE: No meeting in July and August

Next Meeting:

September TBD