Professional advisory committee

Minutes

December 15, 2020 | 1:00 p.m.

In Attendance

**Present:** Jack Thompson, Amy Hutchinson, Colleen May, Gail Buermann, Heidi Martinez, Michael Benson, Michele Totten, Reejen Cooper, Breann Vanderberg

**Staff Present**: Cynthia Hurkes, Athena Wikstrom

Welcome, Review Agenda / Minutes, Approval of Minutes

Jack requested that Cynthia send him a quick synopsis of the Teach My kits including the funder and participating partners.

Reejen motioned to pass the minutes from the November 17, 2020 meeting, Michael Benson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Hub / Partner Reports

**Early Learning Hub** – We are continuing our equity work. It will be included on future meeting agendas.

**Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI)** – Lake County received their Teach My kits and flyer packets. Partners shared the following distribution updates:

* Head Start will be dropping off kits for families tomorrow. Thursday is the last day of classes before a two-and-a-half-week break.
* Amy has Imagination Library flyers to go with packets. She is taking them to Michael Carter today.
* Gail is working to get the Teach My kits to North Lake, they are receiving 30 kits and two Spanish instruction books.

Jack shared that the kits are very nice and professional looking.

**Michael Benson – Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) –** Due to a rise in COVID-19 cases, home visits were placed on hold at the beginning of the month. EI/ECSE is working with a few children at Head Start in person, everyone else has transitioned to video connections.

**Gail Buermann – North Lake School Reports –** As a safe harbor area, the district did not need to be concerned with shutting down due to a rise in COVID-19 cases. This is the last week before the two-week Winter Break. Classes will resume on January 4. The school year is nearly half over. It is amazing how well the staff has adjusted and how smoothly the year has gone. Preschool was not offered this year due to renovations taking place, however it is expected to be offered again next year. The district is offering Aracelis, online learning, for preschool students and incoming kindergarteners. It is working well.

**Jack Thompson - School Reports** – In person classes are available for everyone in Lake County in K-12 schools. Lakeview had a couple of grades quarantined, however they are now back in session. The Education Service District has been shut down with staff working from home due to COVID-19 cases.

**Reejen Cooper - Early Learning Providers Reports -** Thursday is the last day for in-person learning for Head Start before Winter Break. Classes will resume on January 4, then staff will begin working on immunization records before the exclusion date. Head Start will send home exclusion documents by January 14. Some families have been hit with COVID-19, so staff members are dropping off virtual learning packets and materials to homes that have been affected.

**Amy Hutchinson – Library Report –** The library district held community baby showers recently. There were two families at the live event, and one or two more families have watched the recording. This model is being considered for the future. Parents can still watch the 45-minute recording and come by the library to get prizes. Lake County is moving to moderate in the COVID-19 Risk Categories on December 18 and the libraries will go back to the same service levels as before the freeze.

**Colleen May - Healthy Families -** Went to virtual meeting during the two-week freeze. Vicky does have availability on her case load for additional families. Healthy Families would like to screen everyone prenatally or within two-weeks of birth. Douglas County Healthy Families applied for curriculum funding. If the request is approved, the budgeted funding will be shared with Klamath and Lake Counties.

**Heidi Martinez - Lake District Hospital –** The Health District is doing more telehealth appointments, with everyone still working in the office. There were two children who were trying to get intensive services, unfortunately one is now in the hospital, and one has been removed from the household due to delays in services caused by COVID-19.

**Michele Totten – Department of Human Services (DHS) -** Child Welfare has been busy due to families being at home with an increase in stressors during COVID-19. Self Sufficiency got a new computer system on November 1, and is working through the glitches.

Next Meeting Date

January 26, 2021 at 1:00