**South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub**

**Lake County Community Governance Council**

**Date: October 27, 2020**

**Time: 1:00 PM**

**Via Zoom**

***Minutes***

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| Steering Committee: | Vicky Taylor | Jack Thompson | Gail Buermann | Michael Carter |
|  | Amy Hutchinson |  |  |  |
| Voting Members: | Mike Benson | Reejen Cooper | Kadi Estes | Jake Greer |
|  | Arvinder Singh | Niki Taylor |  |  |
| Community Partners: | Arianna Azamar | Chandra Cahill | Judy Clarke | Heather Freilinger |
|  | Jill Harlan | Paul Hauder | Kendra Holderman | Kimberly Ishida |
|  | Ken Kestner | Heidi Martinez | Colleen May | Rhonda Nyseth |
|  | Judy Springer | Michelle Totten | Charlie Tracy | Susan Warner |
|  | Linda Watson | James Williams | Francie Winters |  |
| DESD Staff: | Cynthia Hurkes | Julie Hurley | Corey Ortega | Vanessa Pingleton |
|  | Danielle Walker | Gillian Wesenberg | Athena Wikstrom |  |
| Guests: | Heidi McGowan |  |  |  |

| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Decisions/Action/Next Steps** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome/Introductions** | Introductions were made. Heidi McGowan of East Consulting and Associates facilitated the meeting. |  |
| **Review Agenda** | Agenda was approved with the addition of ‘LCGCC Elections.’ |  |
| **KPI Strategies** | Cynthia presented information about the Teach My Preschooler kits Michael Carter had proposed at the last meeting. She said kit distribution could be an effective strategy to provide an educational opportunity for parents to engage with kids on school readiness She is able to obtain the kits for a discounted price of $19.99 each rather than the retail price of $29.99 with a volume order through Kindergarten Partnership and Innovation funds. She proposed shipping 200 kits to Lake County for distribution to families with preschool children aged 3-5. All families in Lake County are at least experiencing geographic isolation, so there are no other external qualifiers needed. The hub priority populations include people of color, low income families, and those with disabilities. She noted that the materials don’t come in Spanish, but they do have Spanish language guides for parents. Michael C. noted that there are YouTube videos available on using the kits in English and Spanish. Reejen and Jack asked if there would be any events or trainings for families or a teacher hired to help families use the kit. Cynthia said not at this time. Michael C. noted that in work at his previous school district, kits were given out through a ministerial association, through WIC home visiting. WIC first loaned families the kit to see if they used it, and families who used it got to keep it. They received a lot of positive feedback from parents. Vicky supported checking back in with families to see if kits are being used and redistribute those that are not. Jack noted that we will have to be careful doing so during the pandemic. Amy offered to put relatively unused kits through the library quarantine process before redistribution. Cynthia suggested that 300 might be a better number of kits to ensure more families are served. Heather suggested DHS offices as a potential distribution partner. Reejen noted that kits would be excellent for families on her waitlist.  Cynthia asked which agencies are interested in distributing kits. LCSD #7, North Lake School, Healthy Families, Head Start, and Lake County Libraries are all interested in distribution. Cynthia asked about storage for kits in Lake County. Michael C. offered to store them at Daly Middle School. Jack asked when the kits should be distributed, and Cynthia noted she could order them as early as next week if the school district is willing to receive them. Heidi thought quick distribution might be a good holiday boost for families. Cynthia stated she has a total of 100 Spanish guides available and asked what percentage of Lake County’s population would need them. Reejen suggested 10% overall would be a good number, so 30 Spanish guides. | **Cynthia:**   * Order 300 kits and ship to DMS. * Send survey to Lake County entities interested in distribution. * Coordinate dividing kit numbers between entities.   **Michael Carter:**   * Store kits at DMS and provide access to distributors as needed. * Have video on using kits created. * Distribute kits, follow up on use   **Mike Benson:**   * Deliver kits to North Lake School   **Gail**   * Distribute kits, follow up on use   **Reejen:**   * Distribute kits, follow up on use   **Amy:**   * Deliver kits to North Lake School * Distribute kits, follow up on use |
| **Approval of the Minutes** | Amy presented the September 22, 2020 minutes. The minutes were approved as presented. (Moved by Michael C., seconded by Gail, unanimous vote.) |  |
| **LCCGC Elections** | Amy noted that she did not believe there was a quorum present, but Jack discovered there are. The following were elected:   * Vicky Taylor as chair and Jack Thompson as vice chair, term ending 6/30/2021. (Moved by Jack, seconded by Michael C., unanimous vote.) * Amy Hutchinson for Steering Committee term ending 6/30/2022. (Moved by Michael C., seconded by Gail, unanimous vote.) * Michael Carter to replace Will Cahill on Steering Committee to represent Lake County School District #7, term ending 6/30/2021. (Moved by Amy, seconded by Jack, unanimous vote.) * Mike Benson and Reejen Cooper as Voting Members with terms ending 6/30/2022. (Moved by Michael C., seconded by Jack, unanimous vote.)   Amy reported that she will move Voting Members who are not present at the current meeting and have expired terms back to Community Partners. If they would like to be Voting Members again, they can easily be reappointed. | **Amy will update roster and the election document and send them to the group.** |
| **SCOELH Equity Lens** | Heidi asked if anyone was involved on the subcommittee for the Equity Lens or in conversations with the consultants as part of the process. Vicky was on the subcommittee and several people participated in the Lake County focus group. Heidi reminded everyone that Douglas ESD wrote a grant to provide support to DESD leadership and governing bodies to increase knowledge and awareness on serving populations in equitable, inclusive way. This document had come out of that work. Heidi reviewed the Equity Lens document with the group and asked for feedback from the group. Michal C. noted that to him, an intervention and a solution are two different things, and suggested that the words ‘solutions or’ be removed from item 4. B. Gail seconded the suggestion. Jack recommended adopting the document, amended to remove the language identified above. (Motioned by Michael C., seconded by Gail, unanimous vote.) | **Athena will remove ‘solutions or’ from item 4. B. of the document and send to Amy.**  **Amy will forward the revised Equity Lens to all.** |
| **EL Hub Updates** | **Early Childhood Expansion Plan and Preschool Promise**  Gillian reported that the hub has been focusing on this and has been successful. They have received more Preschool Promise slots, with 20 additional Head Start slots in Lakeview. The State has asked hubs to provide coordinated enrollment for Preschool Promise, which means qualifying families as to Oregon residency, income at less than 200% of poverty level, and having children aged 3 or 4 by September 1. Heather has been providing technical assistance to hub staff on completion of this work, and Athena and Danielle have been doing a really great job.  Heather noted that Care, Connections, and Education is increasing their staff and a new Assistant Director/Preschool Promise coach will be starting next week. This person has served as the director of a Preschool Promise program for the last three years. CCE will offer all new Preschool Promise programs coaching and technical assistance to move through SPARK quality ratings. They are excited to move forward with serving Lake County.  Gillian noted that Governor Brown has stated adamantly that she does not want Preschool Promise dollars reduced in the next budget cycle, and Heather noted her belief that the program will receive more dollars in the future. Heather also noted that the state Early Learning Division is meeting monthly with EL Hub directors and Childcare Resource and Referral directors, so the same information is being shared with both groups. The agencies provide coordinated, non-overlapping services, so being in the same room with the state regularly is helpful for coordination. |  |
| **Next meeting** | **Tuesday, November 17, 2020** |  |