**South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub**

**Douglas County**

**Community Governance Council**

***October 1, 2019***

***4:30 – 6:30 pm***

***Minutes***

**Council Members:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Barbara Johnson, *Business (Chair)* |  | Heather Murphy, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Diane Dunas, *Private School Representative* |
|  | Steve Schenewerk, *Faith Representative (Vice Chair)* |  | Marta Queant, *Language Specialist* |  | Bob Dannenhoffer, *Medical Representative* |
|  | Dave Gianotti, *School Superintendent* |  | Jan Zurate, *School Superintendent* |  | Betty Wagner, *Social Worker, Therapist* |
|  | Tammie Hunt, *Cow Creek Representative* |  | Christine Seals, *CCO Representative* |  | Bryan Trenkle, *Non-Profit Director* |
|  | Tim Freeman, *Business* |  | Maureen Short, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Debra Thatcher, *UCC President* |
|  | Michael Lasher, *ESD Superintendent* |  | Charlene Stutes, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Desta Welsh, *DHS Representative* |
|  | Shawn Lybarger, *Professional Advisory Chair* |  | Sherri Vogt, *Parent Representative* |  |  |

**Staff Present:**

Athena Wikstrom, Cynthia Hurkes, Cory Ortega, Vanessa Pingleton, Julie Hurley, Gillian Wesenberg

**Others Present:**

Marsha LaVerne, Heidi McGowan, Mandy Rigsby, Debbie Foley, Jared Cordon

| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Decisions/Action/Next Steps** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome/Introductions** |  | **Barbara Johnson** |
| **Approve June minutes** | No required updates. | **Motion:** Steve Schenewerk  **Second:** Shawn Lybarger |
| **Action Items** | No action items were carried forward. | **Motion:**  **Second:** |
| Director’s Report | Gillian advised that the Student Success Act (SSA) passed since our last meeting and identified items that will be funded by the SSA. She shared that a majority of the funds are going to direct services with a small amount going to the Hub for coordination and alignment. The upcoming planning around the SSA was discussed by Gillian and Jared Cordon (Superintendent of Roseburg Public Schools.) The Regional Governance Council will be the Stewardship Committee that the state is requiring for the Plan, with the addition of parents and mandated groups. “At scale” was defined as all kids in the priority populations. Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE) provided a report around our priority population based on kindergarten teacher surveys, provider surveys, parent surveys and superintendent interviews, but omitted poverty. They will be assisting with data received from the state to get meaningful information. Children’s Institute is going to assist with getting parents involved.  Mandy inquired if focus groups with parents would be held to understand parent needs. Gillian advised that focus groups would be beneficial, it has to still be vetted what we have the time to accomplish.  Steve requested access to the School District Continuous Improvement Plans to ensure that the Hub is aligned and woven through the K12 Plans. | **Gillian Wesenberg** |
| ***Early Learning Division*** | There are two different plans going on concurrently – the Student Success Act planning process and alignment with Raise Up Oregon planning. The Student Success Act will assist the Early Learning Division with how to disperse funds for preschool and infant/toddler childcare. The Student Success Act plan will be included in the Request for Applications (RFA) for public funding.  Heidi encouraged the Hub and K12 to discuss questions around families’ needs and to assist each other in forming questions.  Family Development Center (FDC) would like to have Preschool Promise slots in the relief nursery so that the children can have Parent Child Interactive Therapy (PCIT). Compass also has PCIT currently. Heidi asked the group to inquire if partners are able or interested in expanding. Gillian requested the information be sent to her as soon as possible. Julie advised that a lot of businesses are concerned with the childcare landscape and lack of providers. Families are utilizing spots that could assist families in poverty due to the lack of facilities.  PRE conducted interviews with superintendents and surveys with kindergarten teachers, providers, and parents. The group reacted to the PRE results and that Early Learning is the most important area to spend money. There was surprise around superintendents not knowing the full extent of children coming in with trauma backgrounds. There are joint efforts for common applications for preschools and childcares. Transportation being an issue was discussed. School buses providing public transportation was suggested by Jared Cordon. Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (OPK) should receive funding for transportation from SSA beginning next year. | **Heidi McGowan** |
| **Strategic Planning** | Heidi introduced the Strategic Plan and the necessity to have it aligned with Raise Up Oregon and emphasized that this is the work being completed, not a financial planning document. The group worked on the strategic planning document in small groups. Suggestions were flip charted for Heidi to compile in one document. | **Heidi McGowan** |
| **Wrap-up / Partner Updates** | UCAN’s Executive Director’s last day was September 30, recruiting is taking place currently.  WIC is in the middle of their state review.  Sutherlin Preschool Promise has 19 children including two with special needs. A trip to Park Rose last year was beneficial in how to best assist the special needs children.  Aging People with Disabilities and Self Sufficiency are working to expand their services. Child Welfare has a new state director. 300 positions have been added to child welfare including 39 in Douglas County.  ECHO Douglas County grand opening is scheduled for November.  Family Development Center is almost full. They recently found out that up to five percent of their children can be in stable foster homes.  Yamisa Preschool Promise is running at contracted levels. They are serving one child who is non-verbal. There is a reorganization occurring the in Tribe including a movement of culture and language to the education department.  Ready! For Kindergarten is now a partnership between KPI and Take Root. Take Root will be providing the training this year.  KPI has a GEM information session coming up. | **All** |
| **Next meeting** | November 12, 2019 |  |