

Program Quality
Thursday, March 9, 2023

Present: Maegan Adams, Renee Dailey, Maureen Eaton, Jackie Furniss, Donna Osuch, Pam Testa, Rachael Witkewicz, Leah Zukauskas
Absent: Wendy McGrath, Kristen Peck, Val Pelletier

Staffing and enrollment update:

- **Staffing:**
 - BOE fully staffed
 - BCDC still looking for four staff to open new toddler rooms
 - INMELC needs at one toddler assistant and one preschool assistant
- **Staff turnover:**
 - BOE is limited by hiring at Step 4 or less – hard to find people with Special Ed Pre-K certification
 - BCDC has lost 22-25 staff over the last year (72 total staff; usually 47-50 staff with 4 summer staff = **44%-53% turnover**)
 - INMELC has lost 25 staff over the last year (62 total staff; usually 37 = **68% turnover**)
- **Enrollment:**
 - BOE has eleven openings (138/149)
 - BCDC has five openings, and Burlington Ave is now full (119/124)
 - INMELC has one openings (118/119)
- **BristolWorks:**
 - Contract being finalized
 - First cohort to start March 21 with 18 confirmed (24 applicants) – working to confirm remaining participants
 - Participants will have Tunxis Community College benefits

OEC/Other Updates:

- **School Readiness Grant** – due to OEC by May 4, 2023
 - Discussion about reallocation of slots statewide – BCDC requesting 8 SD/SY spaces that Donna will include in OEC survey due today
 - Submit grant materials to Donna any time before April 14, 2023
- **Enrollment Grant** – third quarter will be due in early April, so get first two months done now
- **Monitoring** –
 - Confirming all SR programs need to collect proof of residency
 - Donna will schedule meeting with each program to look at/discuss quality components
- **Wage Support Program** – BCDC and INMELC applying, and Donna will send to BOE

Legislative Session:

- Proposed legislation: Education Committee held hearing including the Compensation Scale <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zewYYC99Mvztq5ZsEcXsazacwHMPzMMfh0toN5Niampo/edit>
 - Maegan determined Compensation Scale would cost BCDC \$700,000/year or \$350/child per month
 - Donna will share full report that includes Compensation Scale
- Talking points for legislators – add local contact information and send to Jo for formatting

Kindergarten Registration and Ready4K:

- Cambridge Park debrief – only 5 parents showed up, but 2 needed the connection for children
- Kindergarten forms for BOE – send mid-April as in past years

Professional Development:

- **CLASS training** – Donna registered everyone so let her know if you don't receive materials and confirmation about 2 weeks prior to training
- Still looking for someone to observe classrooms – Maegan suggested someone do NAEYC observation instead of CLASS

Classroom Observations:

- Rachael still getting large number of early intervention requests – 10 within last 2 weeks
 - **Referrals should come from director-level staff, not teachers**

Community News:

- Immanuel Lutheran planning to serve infants
- The Learning Experience trying to get approval to open Southington facility

Next Meeting Date April 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

September 8, 2022 at 9:30 on Zoom

October 13, 2022 at 9:30 on Zoom

November 10, 2022 at 9:30 on Zoom

December 8, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

January 12, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

February 9, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

March 9, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

April 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

May 11, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

June 8, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Osuch