

State Interagency Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

ESD 112 – Skamania/Klickitat Conference Rooms
2500 NE 65th Ave
Vancouver, WA 98661



Attendance:

Members

Val Arnold, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Maryanne Barnes, Service Provider
Kathy Fortner for (Lisa Greenwald), Service Provider
Janet George, Department of Services for the Blind
Margaret Gunshows, Tribal Representative
Jena Lavik, Parent
Dr. Diane Liebe, Service Provider
Heather Moss for (Greg Williamson), DEL, Lead Agency
Maria Nardella, CSHCN, Department of Health
Suzanne Quigley, Service Provider
Sugely Sanchez, Parent
Janet Spybrook, Personnel Preparation
Major Daniel Tolson, Military

Members Unable to Attend

Kylee Allen, Headstart
Stacey Bushaw, State Medicaid Agency
Megan Crowmar, County Human Services
René Denman, Service Provider
Paul DuBois, State Agency, Insurance Commissioner
Anna Frangomeni, Parent
Amy Kocher, Parent
Darci Ladwig, Parent
Carla Reyes, State Agency: DDD, Foster Care and Infant Mental Health (DSHS)
Rep. David Sawyer, Legislative

Others Attending

Carie Bishop- Sanders – ESIT
Shawna Clasey - ESIT
Kerianne Christie – FLIC/CDHL
Abby Braithwaite – NWSDA/ABI
Cheryl Buettemeier – Boyer Children's Clinic
Carol Hall – ESD112
Kristin Hayden - Parent
Michelle Hoffman – Department of Health

Debbie Jackson - Parent
Evette Jasper – DEL
Jennifer Matheis - Parent
DeEtte Snyder – WA State School for the Blind
Michelle Steele – ESD112
Dean Stenehjerm – Wa State School for the Blind
Deanna Stewart – DEL
Brenda Tyrrell – Parent to Parent, Clark County
Kristin Wade – Clark County DD/CCICC
Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson – FLIC, Parent to Parent Island County
Connie Zapp – Holly Ridge

ESIT Program Staff Who Participated

Debi Donelan
Susan Franc
Kathy Grant-Davis
Laurie Thomas

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Introductions & Approvals

Chair Maryanne Barnes called the meeting to order.

Ms. Barnes led introductions of the new Council members and audience present. New members spoke briefly about the area they represent. Members of the Clark County Interagency Coordinating Council were present and thanked for their assistance in coordinating the parent participation part of today's meeting.

Ms. Barnes noted that Linda Jennings is not present and therefore we do not have the minutes from the July 2015 meeting to approve.

Ms. Barnes introduced the Agenda and added Committee Reports to be addressed after Agency Reports.

Ms. Barnes reviewed the 2016 Annual Meeting Schedule with the Council members.

Motion: A motion was made to change the proposed meeting date of July 27, 2016 to July 20, 2016. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. Conversations with Families

Three parents from Clark County shared their stories and experiences while participating in early intervention. Kristin Hayden, Jennifer Matheis and Abby Braithwaite were the panelists for this year's Conversations with Families.

Kristin –

- Transition – there is no easy way to “rip off that bandaid”
- Tell parents that it will be different but it's important to stay connected
 - Recommends using a journal to communicate between the parent and teacher.

Jennifer –

- Recommends continuity of therapists and FRCs
- Improving the transition from Early Intervention to 3-5 Program
- Facilitating a “Person-Centered Plan”
- Challenges included financial burden (medical co-pays).

Abby -

- How to improve transition from Early Intervention to 3-5 Program?
- Partnership between the Early Intervention program and school district is critical
- Our Next Step – transition curriculum can be used with families (workbook & DVD)

General Themes covered in presentations, summarized by Maryann Barnes:

- Staff turnover (and consistency amongst providers)
- Revisions to IFSPs (adding or changing services)
- Parent support
- Funding cuts affect families and service delivery/frequency of service

Comments/Discussion shared by board members:

Discussion regarding questions of continuity of services from 3-5 as mentioned by Margaret Gunshows, Oregon provides services from 0-5.

Val Arnold noted the written interagency agreement between the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) and Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is “cookie cutter” and does not address that since 2009 school districts are responsible for ensuring early intervention services are provided.

Kathy Fortner expressed her belief it is all about the relationships between Early Intervention (EI) and the school districts. EI providers need to know and be able to explain to parents the staff and program specialties of local school districts.

Parent support is extremely important, as shared by Jena Lavik-Kennedy. It is important to walk parents through transition and to give them positive outlooks instead of focusing on what they are losing in the process (ie, not talking about losing FRC, losing home visits, etc but to focus on that the child will blossom in Part B services, will have peers and specialists through the school district).

III. Public Comment/Questions

Val Arnold:

Would it be possible to set up meeting rooms so that board members do not have their backs to the audience members but still have a delineation to show who are voting members?

IV. Agency & Committee Reports

Agency reports, when available, are included in handouts within the Council packets.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Val Arnold

Highlights:

WAC392-172A – Early Childhood Transition – 02080 – specifically addresses accountability measure for our public school districts for children transitioning from Part C to Part B

- Ensuring there is a “smooth and effective” transition (indicator 12 – but that indicator only addresses timeliness)
- New state initiative – “consistency index initiative” – preK population. Indicator B17 looking at 4 year plan to close early literacy performance gap between children with special needs entering kindergarten and their typically developing peers.
- State House Bill specifically data collection and reporting requirements for all students, not just children with disabilities
- Special Education proposed changes are out for comment now

Department of Health, Children with Special Health Care Needs, Maria Nardella

Highlights:

- Staff Updates:
 - Michelle Hoffman is new Family Engagement Coordinator (in attendance)
 - Meredith Pyle, Supervisor for CYSCHN Projects (new position)
 - Elizabeth Hyde, Administrative Assistant
 - Shanne Montague, Child Health Consultant
 - Position still available – Early Childhood Comprehensive Services Coordinator
- Working across agencies on data sharing – identifying children with special health care needs being broadened with DSHS to three-way data sharing so children with special health care needs on Medicaid will be on Prism to identify high spenders on Medicaid, open doors for more services.
- New federal grants – CDC/SAMHSA/Maternal and Child Health Grant. Updates listed on handout. Universal developmental screening is a common theme – identifying children with special health care needs earlier
 - Project Launch – developing stronger partnerships with early learning and childcare environments

Dr Liebe - Data collected showed increased 67% of who made referrals into EI. As medical providers in early learning centers are increasing their knowledge, its reducing the need for parents to self-refer.

Department of Services for the Blind, Janet George

- No clearly defined 0-3 update at this time.

Committee Updates

Family Leadership and Involvement Committee (FLIC), Sugely Sanchez

Highlights:

- New co-chairs – Sugely Sanchez (Snohomish) and Darcy Ludwig (Spokane)
- Met yesterday and shared family stories in preparation for todays presentation
- Most of the day was SSIP updates and discussion of the survey (Ages and Stages SE)
- Discussed timeline of when it could be shared with parents appropriately
- Plan for next years plans
- Next meeting will begin working on projects

Data Committee, Needs Chair
Highlights: No meeting held.

Funding Committee/Stakeholder Group, Karen Walker
Highlights: No meeting held.

Personnel and Training, Janet Spybrook
Highlights: No meeting held.

Public Policy Committee, Needs Chair
Highlights: No meeting held.

V. Department of Early Learning Heather Moss and ESIT staff provided updates.

Highlights:

- A lot of change happening – new director, Ross Hunter. Former legislator, strong advocate for early learning. Spent his first month diving deep into the department and agency
- New ESIT director, excited to see what happens next
- Priority work around Early Start Act (passed last year). Received over 150 million dollars for this biennium.
- Next legislative session/interim session – meant to be more technical and corrective in nature. Will make a couple requests for funding about getting our IT system up to speed. IT and data are so critical to the work we do. \$10-20 million dollars to create a case management system for licensing, attendance for childcare, and data sharing.
- Recently reconvened parent advisory group.
- Opportunities identified:
 - o Continuity of care
 - o Billing concerns
 - o Data sharing

Evette Jasper

- Looking at ways to make better connections between the Early Learning Advisory Council and State ICC/Early Intervention

VI. ESIT Update, Kathy Grant-Davis, Debi Donelan, Susan Franc

- Karen Walker is retired and beginning projects at her home that have been ignored!
- New software developer, David Corrigan – we expect some great progress on the “wish list” they’ve begun chipping away at.
- Sheila Ammons is in a new position and we will be filling that position
- \$2 million came after contracts were in place and we did amendments, it is now being implemented in the field. We will report on how this funding is being used. The same process will happen next year at the time of typical contracts so amendments will not be necessary.
- LLAs are beginning self-assessment process (analyzing data and completing self-improvement goals) July 1 – Sept 30 data will be looked at in November.

- Local determinations will be made in December based on child outcome summary data from last years monitoring for compliance

State Systemic Improvement Plan – opportunity to focus on child outcomes and how EI is helping children

Last year determined need to enhance the work done with families regarding social and emotional development.

Work this year lines up with action team strands

- Teams feed into DEL executive leadership team and SICC/LLA
- Been getting a lot of great feedback/recommendations from subject experts in the field
- Monthly meeting with Early head Start, Licensing, Early Achievers, other partners to determine how to collaborate to make sure all children are receiving the best social emotional support
- Technical assistance at the federal level – Washington Implementation Activities worksheet
- Each action team has a statement of work and is helping to identify the concrete steps and activities to make this plan happen
- Overlap between the action teams

Action Team 1: Professional Development

- Deals with inservice training
- Multilevels (pyramid model)
- Curricula that may be appropriate
 - What are the practices we want to see happen?
- Get a level of where people are at
 - Surveyed local lead agencies (data collection) and infrastructure analysis
 - Action plan will come back as recommendations to the leadership team
- What is an ongoing support system we can put in place?
 - A tracking system for professional development

Action Team 2: Qualified Personnel

- Endorsement launched this year – how can it be used in the field?
- Opportunities for training statewide
- Linking to existing services (ie, Early Head Start, etc)
- Project Launch

Action Team 4: Accountability

- Looking at what is happening in programs regarding cost process
- Reviewing and monitoring the data from the process and using for program improvements
- Working with national Daisy Center’s self assessment process they’ve developed

Action Team 3: Assessment

- How do we enhance assessment of social emotional development?
 - Tools are not always sensitive enough
 - Devareaux is high quality tool being used (looks at attachment)

- Discussed training on DECA and support having EI providers using it? But also include a menu of tools that are available to honor assessments being used by other programs.
- Enhancing functional assessment
- Parents shared at Family Leadership and Involvement Committee meeting yesterday that it would be best “awkward” to separate the assessment
- How do we present social emotional (ie, personal) questions in a way that is sensitive and culturally appropriate?
 - Discussion and input from audience regarding lack of explanation WHY the assessment is necessary as well as sharing with parents that all areas of development are addressed in early intervention and time to build relationships with families prior to asking questions of families that may highlight concerns they did not have prior to the assessment.

VII. Public Comment

No comments or questions

VIII. Emerging Issues/Other Topics

January: APR

February meeting focus: Legislative

Meeting adjourned at 2:34pm.

Reminder: Infant and Early Childhood Conference in May – topics identified today that would be good presentations: transition, difficult conversations, assessment. The call for presenters will be forwarded to the board and dispersed via email – please consider how you and your staff can help.

Next SICC Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, January 20, 2016, Special Meeting – Annual Performance Report (APR)

Wednesday, February 24, 2016 – Legislative

April – Statewide System

July – Innovative Programs and Practices

October - Families