

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

P-3 Alignment & Early Childhood Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	9:30 am, March 15, 2023 Online via Zoom
MEETING CALLED BY	Kristi Collins
WORKGROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Barbara Dougherty, Debbie McPheeters, Diane Wilkinson, Donna Brown, Kathy Feser, Katy Allaback, Kelsey Culbertson, Kimberly McCutcheon Gross, Lynnette Wynkoop, Paul Smith, Susan Halliday
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Connie Adams, Kristi Collins, Matt Grams, Jinguang Lin, Sam Rounsavell, Carmen Santacruz, Kelly Schell, LeAnne Trask
RECORDED	Yes

P-3 Alignment Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Welcome and Introductions
Work Group Members introduced themselves.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	KPI Updates
<p>Kristi shared that the EL Hub is updating the KPI reporting form. State reporting is changing and now is using the PSU evaluation model. Matt has created an online reporting tool for KPI partners that aligns with the State reporting required of the EL Hub.</p> <p>Matt shared the new report with the workgroup and explained how to use it. It should be easier to use than previous report tools. Workgroup members are welcome to call him with any questions or to schedule a training.</p> <p>The workgroup asked about the survey. If there are three or more sessions of an event, an outcome survey needs to be given. It is a one page pre-post survey given at the end of a series.</p> <p>Kristi encouraged the workgroup not to make an event fit the categories given but to mark it as other and use the explanation field to describe the event.</p>	

P-3 Alignment & Early Childhood Coordinating Council Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Welcome additional participants
Work Group Members introduced themselves.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Regional Assessment
Kristi reviewed Ecosystem documents with the workgroup.	

She shared an infographic from the state:

- Issue 1: Many families cannot access high-quality, affordable ECE that meets their needs and preferences.
- Issue 2: Not enough ECE slots that meet families' needs, preferences
- Issue 3: Non enough ECE workforce who represent communities served and can deliver high-quality ECE
- Issue 4: Low wages and benefits paid to ECE workforce
- Market Failure in ECE business model (operational costs are more than the market or subsidy rates)
- Lack of sufficient, sustainable investment into ECE as an essential community, business, and institution at all levels.

The root causes of all four issues fall into three buckets

- Local Regional Causes (the focus of this workgroup today)
- Broader System root causes (Hubs and ELD to partner in addressing these)
- ELD operational root causes (ELD is working to address these internally)

Completing the Regional System Assessment is the final step for the Regional Stewardship Committee. We are on track to meet the due date for this deliverable.

Kristi shared the handout – Common Ecosystem Conditions and Advocacy for Raise Up Oregon Objective 2 map. The highlighted areas showed opportunities for advocacy.

The workgroup noted that some families want the flexibility to choose hours per day (lower dosage), not just graveyard/weekend shifts. Kristi explained that it is captured under "hours of operation" that are undefined to include precisely that type of flexibility.

There was a discussion of issues around Preschool Promise (PSP) implementation without the same supports in place as Head Start. And yet, PSP is expected to meet the same quality standards.

It was noted that facilities/Infrastructure are highlighted, but the permitting process is also a barrier.

It was noted that the timing of funding, and lack of flexibility of funds, are barriers.

The workgroup shared that EIECSE needs expanded qualifications for supports or a new pathway for children to receive those behavioral supports.

The workgroup discussed wage parity and recruitment issues. Improvement in this area would make a significant difference. Kristi asked how this issue could be addressed in our region. It was suggested that the LBCC pathway might help recruit bilingual, culturally competent staff. And the EL Hub is working on getting Business Community buy-in for supporting the actual costs of child care.

Kristi will take the notes from this discussion to finish the Regional Assessment. Workgroup members are encouraged to reach out if they have any additional thoughts.

The Regional Assessment will be presented to the EL Hub Governing Boar at the April meeting.

Early Childhood Coordinating Council Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Legislative Update
	<p>Kristi shared about Advocacy Day at the Capitol. Early Learning Hub directors from across the state all came together with Eames Consulting, the Hub Association lobbyists, to meet with our local elected officials and share with them about the work of early learning hubs, answer any questions that they may have, and talk about the bills that are in front of them related to early learning and what the needs are.</p> <p>Kristi and other Hub directors met with Speaker Rayfield and his team to give him a broad, state wide lens of what Early Learning Hub work looked like. They also met with Sen Gelser, Rep Boshart Davis, Sen Anderson, and Rep Gomberg. Early Learning was not a hard sell. Legislators see the value of child care and quality early learning. All are familiar with Early Learning Hubs and the work being done statewide, which was a big difference from previous lobby days. The creation of the Oregon Early Learning Hub Association and contracting with a lobbyist in the capital representing them with a dedicated voice has made a significant difference in what state leadership knows about the work happening in early learning, specifically around Early Learning Hubs.</p> <p>There have been recent opportunities to testify on specific bills. Testimony can be offered in written form, in person, or by Zoom. If partners are willing and able to participate in this way, please let Kristi know.</p>
	<p>There has been significant movement on House Bill 3005, the Early Learning facilities fund. There is a group working to put together a list of shovel-ready programs. Some local programs from our region will be added. Please contact Lynnette or Kristi if you know of such programs that would like to be listed.</p>
	<p>Budget information will not be available until the end of May.</p>
	<p>Paul shared some bills his agency is watching.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SB 610 Food for Oregonians.• SB 555 Fresh Produce• SB 426 Toxic Free Schools• HB 3043 Toxic Free Kids• HB 2773 Public Health Workforce

DISCUSSION ITEM	
	<p>Kristi sent an email from Portland State University about filling out a survey related to the Coordinated Enrollment and Regional Stewardship Committee from our sector planning and Priority Populations and prioritization. It was sent out to all Preschool Promise providers and partners participating in Regional Stewardship Committee. Please complete it and share your feedback.</p>

It was clarified that P-3 and Early Childhood Coordinating Council together are the Regional Stewardship committee. Regional Stewardship is a standing part of this group's agenda.

The workgroup asked how long the Coordinated Enrollment Stewardship Committee has existed. It was shared that the committee was initially formed on October 10, 2019.

NEXT MEETING	9:30 am, April 19, 2023 Online via Zoom
MEETING ADJOURNED	11:03 am