# Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

### P-3 Alignment & Early Childhood Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	9:30 am, October 18, 2023 Online via Zoom
MEETING CALLED BY	Kristi Collins
PRESENTERS	Chris Singer, Mid-Valley STEM-CTE Hub
WORKGROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Deanna Barclay, Autumn Belloni, Diane Wilkinson, Donna Brown, Kelly Culbertson, Nicole Kalita
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Kristi Collins, Matt Grams, Antonia Huerta, Sam Rounsavell, Carmen Santacruz, Kelly Schell
RECORDED	Yes

#### P-3 Alignment Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Welcome and Introductions
Work Group Members introduced themselves.	

SPECIAL	Chris Singar Mid Vallay STEM CTE Llub
PRESENTATION	Chris Singer, Mid-Valley STEM-CTE H

Chris Singer is a Program Coordinator with the Mid-Valley STEM-CTE Hub. The STEAM Hub is based out of Linn-Benton Community College and works with students ages P-20 in the Linn-Benton region.

Chris shared the training opportunities for incorporating STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) into early learning programs. KPI funding can be used for this type of professional development.

Chris discussed various training programs that he offers, including:

- When You Play, You Are Learning is a 60-90 minute workshop that introduces STEAM and how teachers can lead STEAM-based play in their classrooms.
- **Playful Math for Early Learners**, a 90-120 minute workshop, shows how to create a playful math-learning environment in the classroom.
- **Early Learning STEAM cohort**, a 90 minute session by topic or all together as a 6-8 hour training for pre-K 2<sup>nd</sup> grade educators. Topics include
  - When You Play, You Are Learning
  - Using Picture Books in Project-Based STEAM Learning
  - o Using Six Bricks in The Pre-K/Early Elementary Classrooms
  - o Hands-On Science, Making, Tinkering, and Engineering for Early Learners

Chris also offers Learn and Go Playology programs. This includes a scheduled classroom visit with an activity demonstrating the power of hands-on STEAM-based

learning. Common activities include BeeBots, LEGO Disaster Island, Domino Chain Reactions, LEGO Zip Line, Hot Wheels Speedometry, Engineering Challenges using KEVA Planks, and more.

He can work with teachers to set up a learning center or Making/Tinkering space in their classrooms. The STEAM Hub helps with ideas, supplies, and setup.

Any STEAM training can be adapted to the specific group, from preschool to high school and adults. Trainings are offered at an affordable price.

There was a discussion about the importance of children being exposed to STEAM topics early. STEAM is also very engaging and helpful for special education students. STEAM learning has many benefits, including helping kids prepare for school.

The STEAM Hub is collaborating with Michelle Neilson from LBL ESD to create training for educators about STEAM activities for neurodiverse and early intervention students.

Kristi shared that the Early Learning Hub often hears from our KPI-funded recipients that shared professional development is one of the priority areas for kindergarten partnership and innovation, and they struggle with finding something appropriate or local. The STEM Hub offers all these trainings and opportunities for our early learning and K-12 partners to train together.

Autumn shared that her staff had a Six Bricks STEAM training from the STEAM Hub. It was very well received and has been used in classrooms regularly.

Donna Brown shared that STEAM activities are great for students on IFSP. These activities in the classroom engage students and help them see new learning opportunities.

Chris is happy to take questions or offer assistance and shared his email address singerc@linnbenton.edu

#### DISCUSSION ITEM KPI

Total KPI funding amounts have been sent to LBL ESD. They will use the weighted ADM formula to determine allocation amounts. Once those amounts are available, Kristi will reach out to districts. Funds will be awarded for the full biennium this year.

There are changes to KPI reporting this year, and Matt will be working with districts to help them understand the changes. The requirements around outcome surveys are changing. The EL Hub will work individually with partners to determine how frequently and what needs to be surveyed. The survey will be electronic this year.

#### P-3 Alignment & Early Childhood Coordinating Council Agenda topics

**DISCUSSION ITEM** Welcome additional participants

### **DISCUSSION ITEM** Raise Up Oregon 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

Kristi announced that the EL Hub strategic plan will be due to DELC on September 1, 2023. The draft version of the plan will be presented at our June in-person Board meeting. This leaves time to make revisions and bring it back to our Board in August so we meet the Sept 1st deadline. Each EL Hub workgroup will work on prioritizing what strategies they'll focus on. The Board will review the workgroup priorities and identify any gaps in the work that they would like to focus on. One example that has been discussed is housing. There is not currently a workgroup focused on early learning and housing, so that will become the work of the Board.

Workgroup members were asked to review Raise Up Oregon 2.0 (RUO) and consider what Objectives and Strategies this workgroup can focus on at a local level to support the State of Oregon in implementing Raise Up Oregon.

The workgroup then participated in a Jamboard activity to prioritize Objectives and Strategies from RUO that this workgroup would like to focus on in the upcoming biennium.

https://jamboard.google.com/d/1R6b0QSC1xO8-SrLTW-4AQDZr20\_OHIIVRcXzc79bw9Y/edit?usp=sharing

This link will remain open for workgroup members who could not attend but would like to add input.

Nicole, LBCC is offering Pyramid Model class, ED 222, Winter Term (Jan 8 – March 22). This class is three credits and is offered asynchronously on Moodle. There is space in the class for community non-pre-school promise participants. The tuition for ED 222 is paid for by Family Connections, with a \$99 transcription fee paid by the student.

## **DISCUSSION ITEM** Announcements

Nicole announced that LBCC is offering Pyramid Model class, ED 222, Winter Term (Jan 8 – March 22). This class is three credits and is offered asynchronously on Moodle. There is space in the class for community non-pre-school promise participants. The tuition for ED 222 is paid for by Family Connections, with a \$99 transcription fee paid by the student.

Autumn shared that the state's Early Intervention Early Childhood Special Education Program is underfunded by about \$22 million this biennium. The Oregon Department of Education allocated that we should continue to fund our programs how we have been funding them without any increase this year, which means that

the entire \$22 million we have offset to next year of the biennium as a state agency.

EI/ECSE is working on a legislative plan to bring forward to legislators, Superintendents, and the Early Learning Hub to support efforts toward gaining that funding in the next year of the biennium.

Autumn asked for support from the members of this workgroup. Kristi invited her to use Basecamp to share information and collect feedback and stories.

NEXT MEETING	9:30 am, November 15, 2023 Online via Zoom	
MEETING ADJOURNED	10:51 am	