

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

P-3 Alignment & Early Childhood Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	9:30 am, November 20, 2024 Online via Zoom
MEETING CALLED BY	Kristi Collins
WORKGROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Ruby Ackermann, Deanna Barclay, Donna Brown, Kelsey Culbertson, Susan Halliday, Nicole Kalita, Stephany Koehne, Andrea Lengel, Paul Smith, Diane Wilkinson, Lynnette Wynkoop
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Kristi Collins, Matt Grams, Antonia Huerta, Jinguang Lin, Ana Reyes, Sam Rounsavell, Kelly Schell
RECORDED	Yes

P-3 Alignment & Early Childhood Coordinating Council Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Welcome and Introductions
	Work Group Members introduced themselves.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Workplan Update from DELC
	Kristi reported that the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) has sent notice that the contract deliverable of a Strategic Plan is no longer required due to work being done with the BUILD initiative to redefine the role of a Hub in a community and what needs to go in Hub contracts to support that role with the backbone agencies.
	Kristi asked for workgroup feedback on whether creating a formal work plan is as valuable as giving regular updates on where we're at in the strategic plan. Feedback included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a work plan would help keep this group on track, it may be serviceable • If the strategic plan is detailed enough to give us that guiding roadmap to follow and know if we're accomplishing the priority work, then it could stand alone. • A dashboard or work plan could be used to highlight the outcomes of the strategic plan and may be a good marketing tool

DISCUSSION ITEM	OASCD Learning Conference
	Kristi has been voted onto the Board of the Oregon Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (OASCD) Learning Conference . Presentation proposals are due today, so Kristi encouraged workgroup members to apply. The link to the application was shared in the chat: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjkeDoom13p9PPIrAgQEDF8Re8QDu

[eiGZlwa6jz2YXDN5DMg/viewform](https://forms.gle/eiGZlwa6jz2YXDN5DMg). These initial proposals can be very simple, so the conference committee can do some planning for the conference and flush out the details. The workgroup discussed possible presentations about early learning work being done throughout the region. It was noted that the organizers hope to increase the early learning presence at the conference, along with more participation outside the metro area.

\$10k in Birth to Five literacy funds will be used to offer scholarships for conference participation for early learning and K-12 staff. A subcommittee will be formed to process scholarship requests.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Head Start Funding Update
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The Head Start lobbyist is hearing that there may be a 17% or larger federal funding cut. Kidco's funding is 60% federal, and a 17% cut would mean they may lose just under 1 million dollars. Each Head Start program has a different funding structure and may be impacted differently. It is not known if State funding will be available to fill the gap. There may be more solid information in February 2025.

Other programs like Young Roots may also be affected by federal funding cuts.

The workgroup discussed ways to support and advocate for early learning programs.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Funding Opportunity
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Andrea, Diane, Kristi, and a couple of other partners were invited to do a panel presentation at the Board Retreat for Children's Institute held in Lincoln County. They were impressed at the collaboration between partners in our region. One of the board members from the Children's Institute is also on the board of trustees of the Oregon Community Foundation and asked for funding proposals for early learning projects. Kristi suggested the workgroup create a proposal around collaborative coaching.

Lynnette shared that she and some team members met with Autumn and Jill from Lincoln County to lay out where the coaching is happening in our region. They are identifying where supports are being provided. And if there's a way to spread those supports out so that they are not all concentrated in one program.

Andrea shared about the coaching situation at CSC Head Start of Lincoln County.

Stephany shared how coaching is structured at Kidco within their 28 classrooms.

The workgroup discussed what the coaching needs are. Feedback included:

- There is a need for alignment among the coaches.
- Mental health support for coaches and staff is needed.
- A pathway to make more coaches available and to create a support network for those coaches.
- Ensure all programs and counties receive equitable and consistent coaching

services

- Defining a coach's role and scope with local providers and with the state
- Defining the goal or intention of coaching
- Aligning on the pyramid model would be beneficial
- Challenging behavior in the classroom is often tied to low literacy skills in K-12 students.
- Blending and braiding funds to support coaching and training around early literacy aligned with the pyramid model.
- The ESD has behavior specialists and may be a resource to contract with for training

Next steps. This workgroup will continue the conversation to move this work forward. Kristi, Lynnette, and Autumn will collaborate to develop a proposal for the Oregon Community Fund. They will bring that proposal back to this workgroup for review.

DISCUSSION ITEM	December Meeting
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Kristi will do a Basecamp check-in to see if workgroup members will be available for a meeting in December.

NEXT MEETING	9:30 am, December 18, 2024 Online via Zoom
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MEETING ADJOURNED	10:46 am
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