

## **Early Childhood Advisory Board**

**Thursday, October 4, 2018**

**8:00 AM Midtown Campus**

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

**Present:** Dawn Dixon, Brooke Rittenhouse Tucker, Angela Loring, Debbie Barker, Barbara Scarsbrook, Susan Weber, Yvonne Malague, Carol Dinsdale, Anne Ryan and Marilyn Cirri.

**Absent:** Jackie Long, Claudia Decker, Sonia Meier, Gino Cote, Twanna Monroe Mary Ann Goodrich, Gail Ramsdell, Ana Cabezas, Croley Baird. Vikki Yates has retired.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Anne Ryan.

### **Read and Approve Minutes:**

Minutes from the Spring 4/10/18 Advisory Board meeting were read and approved.

### **New Business:**

JWB sponsoring AS & BS degrees. Students must work at least 20 hours a week in a licensed professional Early Childhood Pinellas County center. AS and BS degrees are eligible for the scholarship. The scholarships are \$1000 each. If students already receive TEACH, the funds go into a book line of credit. Anne Ryan has encouraged students to get a laptop if needed. This has been extended to spring and goes through the Foundation. The application is open until 10/15/18. Caity Carty has been wonderful in walking students through the process. Anne Ryan will send out a flyer as this is a great opportunity. Please help get the word out.

<https://spcollege.academicworks.com/opportunities/13903>

New Certification – Meeting in Miami in February. Looked at the AS degree – no changes being made. There are

- Tier 1 – coming in
- Tier 2 – one of the CDA certificates
- Tier 3 – advanced credential
- Tier 4 – AS/ AA
- Tier 5 – Bachelors

Tier 3 is an advanced credential (completion point) with 36 credits. Anne finally got an answer and 4 general ed classes added. This degree will be embedded in the Spring 2019 AS degree.

Purpose of this is a pathway working toward increasing wages and for students working up an educational path. Some agencies grant an automatic raise as employees move

through the tiers and complete the requirements. This increases the education level of their workforce. SPC can now start advertising the 36-hour certificate.

The Pathways project states you must take Comp I in the 1<sup>st</sup> 15 credit hours and Math in the first 30 credit hours. EEC 1603 is one of the recommended classes in the area the student thinks they wish to work in. SPC supports student with tutoring and Learning Support Center.

The Infant Toddler Conference will be held Saturday, October 13, 2018 at the Gibbs Campus. Registration is \$15.00 for SPC students and includes a box lunch.

Early Childhood Care and Education Conference will be Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 will be held mid county at the Clearwater Campus. Tracks for all with PKP breakout sessions with school system partners. Open communication and data sharing is the goal.

Increased enrollment – Anne Ryan stated we opened multiple sections this semester to accommodate student needs. Some come in for 6 credits, but end up going on for more. Intro to Special Needs offered in spring and summer. Both math and science offered blended and online in fall, creative offered in spring. Concern about low enrollment in blended classes. 1603 is a pre or co requisite. Online every semester and students going to more online classes. We try to meet student needs. Working with videotaping current classes and SWIVL camera with our tech. Discussion ensued regarding possible community training as a recruitment tool.

Program Viability meeting at SPC on Monday, Oct. 8th –

- Discuss 2 online programs
- Complete Florida – tuition assistance
- TEACH participants
- Pulling Early Childhood students

SECA 2019 Conference in Orlando this year Feb. 28-March 2, 2019. Possible SPC booth to recruit students.

<https://www.secacon.org/copy-of-call-for-proposals>

Discussed student fingerprinting and background checks if not employed at a center. Anne Ryan will check with Jorie Massarsky. Contact list – field placement centers who have supported students in past – contact directly.

Anne Ryan attended the One Goal Conference. Representatives included Beverly Kamp, Cher Rosselot and Kimberly Shannon. All three are T.E.A.C.H scholarship recipients. They shared their experiences as early childhood professionals and SPC students. All 3 students live outside Pinellas County, they are completing their degrees fully online. For the next conference Anne suggested having a TEACH info session at the January 19<sup>th</sup> conference or a panel. Sometimes modifications (they call models) can be made with TEACH for assistance. Anne will discuss with Denise Bishop.

## **Community Sharing:**

Angela Loring with PKP spoke about their Open House Back to School Event held at an elementary school where primarily pre-K teachers go to the school and meet with Kindergarten teachers. The purpose is to dispel urban legends about kindergarten readiness and change misconceptions. The turnout - 78 registered for the event. They do an activity so teachers can see what info “real”. This opens up dialogue and they work together to transition the students. JWB purchased books, “Fox Makes a Friend.” The books could be read by the pre-K teachers and the Kindergarten teachers. This activity bridges the teachers, families and children. PKP created a form for the pre-K teacher to fill out and pass on to the K teacher about the student with answers to questions like:

- What does the student do well?
- What does the student struggle with?
- How can he/she be helped?

<https://www.pkppinellas.com/> The toolkit gives ideas and is under development.

Angela mentioned the highlights of a new project - Workforce Development Initiative.

Partner with Debbie Barker, DCF Coordinator and her team to recruit and come into Early Childhood. Go through the program and can be hired, connected by Career Source. Debbie and team are helping with the 40 clock hours on site, testing completion, background checks, 15-20 extra hours of training, and exposure to the classroom. They are working on a job description for Jan. 1, 2019 timing.

Pilot program to add screening intervention services.

- More help with behaviors, demand is high
- Bringing on person to help with behavior in classroom.

Yvonne Malague mentioned a new special ed school opened called Destiny Achievement Center and Patricia Schaefer runs. DAC staff and specialists are trained to support students at a wide range of academic levels for ages 5-22. Address is 4200 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. St. Petersburg.

Barbara Scarsbrook on Headstart – challenge getting staff. They have an on staff trainer who does the 40 clock hours and exams. Decided to try using interested parents to train and hire when training successfully completed as a resource. Started with a group of 10. Ended up hiring 3 out of 4. Since this was successful, they are offering family childcare home training. Work for one year and learn the program. At that time, person can be licensed and finish with training for ages 0-12 months. Collaborative efforts going on. Always trying to get information, ideas, and encourage involvement. Formalized program to keep students connected.

Yvonne Malague commented on getting parents involved in behavior as they need to partner or buy into this. Headstart requires a national CDA – Barbara Scarsbrook asked if any changes? Anne Ryan stated she has not heard anything.

Anne Ryan congratulated Brooke Rittenhouse Tucker who will receive her EC BS degree in December from SPC and who will be going on to UNF 's graduate program.

Workforce Connections **Spring 2019 meeting slated for Thursday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at EPI. From 2:30-3:30 main presentation following at 4:00 PM.**

Meeting adjourned.