



Early Childhood Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, 10/22/2020 @ 8:30 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

Date of Meeting:

Members present: Chair Angela Tufts, Sonia Meier, Jackie Lang, Brooke Tucker, Carrie Culbertson, Dawn Espinoza, Mary Ann Goodrich, Debra Barker, Gail Ramsdell, Susan Weber, and Anne Ryan.

Members excused:

Dr. Hartman, C. Baird, C. Dinsdale, D. Orifici, A. Cabezas, Gino Cote, Maria Climes, T. Monroe, B. Scarsbrook.

Others present: Marilyn Cirri, Scribe

- **Call to order:** Anne Ryan opened the meeting with welcome and good morning! The Chair, Angela Loring Tufts called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.
- Welcome and Introductions
- Review & Approval of Previous Minutes
- Program Updates
- New Business
- Industry Updates and Community Sharing
- Spring Meeting
- Adjourn

Previous Minutes Approved:

Motion by:

Sonia

Meier

Second by:

Susan

Weber

Minutes

Approved.

Current Business: Anne Ryan discussed the mission and goals of the committee regarding aligning projects, sharing materials, ideas and connections to meet our goals. Program updates include -

- Changes in the A.S. 2020-21 include moving EEC 1512 Caring for Infants and Toddlers to a 'core' course
 - Students eligible for articulation: EEC 2312, EEC 1308 and (3) EDG 1319 – total 9 credits in the Associate degree
- Continued Support from T.E.A.C.H, JWB and SPC Foundation
- Office of Early Learning removed Tier III from the Career Pathway 36 Credit Certificate continues (financial aid eligible). The 12 credit hour certificates are not eligible for financial aid.



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New Business: Anne Ryan shared the PKP drive through celebration recognizing achievements and shared photos of the event.

Anne told group about the international partnership in the works with Northwest Regional College on Northern Ireland. Frank Jurkovich is working on technical part using Teams on both sides. The concentration is Foundations of Early Childhood, EEC 3009, slated for Feb. 2021 focusing on trauma informed care. Martina Morrison will be a lecturer. The next meeting is November 5th. Brooke Tucker was involved in the previous Ireland SPC connection and stated she still stays in touch with an overseas connection she made.

FLAEYC Conference – sessions with Dr. Iruka on Anti-Racism on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrHIQIO_bdQ

She is a wonderful speaker. The video is short, animated, clear and concise. Anne Ryan wanted to start a student group long ago – but so hard to get people to commit face to face in this busy world. One of the benefits with COVID is less time driving opens up schedules and considering a virtual group. Susan Weber said at the 0-3 Conference, Dr. Iruka was there and was powerful. Susan Weber has had success with a book club at Lew Williams. Been well received. Gail Ramsdell mentioned Cornelius Minor from Teachers College of Columbia University in NY who is a middle school staff developer wrote *We Got This* that goes across grades and ages.

Outreach and Recruitment at SPC

- The COE Open House was 10/1/2020 - opportunity for students and potential students to gain information and contacts
- November 18th there will be a 'Majors Information Session' – Anne Ryan will email info
- Possible outreach to groups through Zoom – ideas?? Anne Ryan is willing to “pop in” as virtual meetings on Zoom allow this and allows her to attend more. She talked about the STEM kits she has from Perkins dollars before Covid hit.

Industry Updates & Discussion:

Susan Weber – concerned about low API assessment. Sonia Meier concerned about the readiness rates. Attendance has been sporadic due to Covid. They opened after Labor Day. Discussed concern over social and emotional issues and moving on to kindergarten. Many having a hard time adjusting to change – been having conversations with parents. Yvonne Malague said kids are stressed across pre-school everywhere, not just VPK. She has more than 100 children, more kids in Project Challenge. Been very different this year. Mary Ann Goodrich spoke that hopefully the stressed adults have some coping tools, but children do not. Trauma informed care pushed up. Hang in on the Readiness rate as low in the beginning, higher in end, those numbers included in Readiness rate. She needs the reality of what is happening in the field to share that information with OEL.



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Sonia M. asked how many VPK virtual providers in Pinellas and Pasco? Angela Loring Tufts said in reality 5 applied with 2 potentials that have moved forward. Carrie C. said none in Hernando, 3 in Pasco and there have been problems with implementation. Providing tools through the coalition and getting support from OEL. Providing virtual training and allowing other counties to sit in. Willing to share the information with as many as they can.

Mary Ann G. is taking Circle of Security for the second time. Since it was virtual, she was able to attend. Recommends for all Directors as is great for relationships and just "being with." Angela T. said we are offering Circle of Security in Pinellas, but offering virtually would make it so more could attend.

Anne Ryan mentioned the USF teach out for their Teacher Ed program closing. Discussion on what SPC can offer these students.

Susan Weber – grant with high school students and books previously gave each child 12 books for them to have as their own. This year up to 45 books. Have some incredible high school students in program. Sonia Meier – allowing families back in the building with cautions/safety guidelines in place to drop off their children and wave (see) the teachers. No closures due to parents. Utilizing nap times to virtually do training using tablets and book club. Looking for grants to support this. Virtual meetings have allowed Directors to attend more easily as they are at their desks in case something pops up – it allows flexibility. Centers have used the playground to demo what kids are doing, where families can walk through using guidelines. Questions asked about the families dropping off and Sonia responded parents felt better as before they only saw a gatekeeper. Comments were positive and parents respected the rules. Consistent interns are valued in classroom discussed.

Yvonne M. going to let Administration know how successful letting parents in has been for others.

Mary Ann G. – new voluntary pilot program with STAR (kindergarten) assessment tool. Email her if you are interested. Just letting everyone know, she will be retiring March 31, 2021. She picked this date as it gives her a month overlap with her replacement for training. She will be doing some reading for Headstart, which is loads of fun!

Angela T. – with funding clearing 0-5 wait list. Curriculum training with OEL, professional development series of training offers framework for open ended curriculum. First component training this Sat. and deeper dive in spring. ELC visits have been limited, but they are getting back out there. Doing virtual coaching. The state has not waived CLASS assessments. Join Lindsay Live sessions on Facebook every Friday at 1:30.

Carrie C. – said providers wanted normalcy back. Started back out doing assessments in September. Pasco Hernando have online coursework, available to all. Coalitions working together to share. Have cleared the wait list and any suggestions would be great. More and more Pasco students will be going to SPC.

Anne R. – if anyone has resources, please send to Anne and she will be glad to distribute to group.

Anne Ryan – announced Anna Cabezas from PTEC is moving to a new position and becoming an advocate for young children at the Children's Court in Tampa – Advocacy. Brooke Tucker is finishing her Master's degree UNF. Congratulations!

Adjournment: Anne Ryan said many opportunities opened up with Covid and we make the best of them. The spring meeting will be determined and information sent out. Thank you everyone, stay connected and if you have anything to share, send to Anne Ryan to send out to all. Adjourned at 10:15.



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