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**NORTHEAST EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL**

**Monday, November 18, 2019**

**5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Brooklyn Board of Education**

**In Attendance:** Myra Ambrogi, Patty Bryant, Patricia Buell, Rena Cadro, Kristine Cicchetti, Bob Chanail, Ashley Fourneir, Christine Gosselin, Paula Graef, Tracy Johnson, MaryEllen Jones, Jennie Kapszukiewicz, Tom Kohl, Kim Merchant, Tammy Miner, Sally Sherman, Judith Smith, Melanie Smith*-*Cervera, Barbara Teatreault, Mark Weaver

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Approval of last meeting minutes
3. Guest Speaker: EASTCONN on Executive Function and Social Competence
4. School Readiness Updates
5. Regional Director Updates
6. Regional Programing / Community Updates
7. Focus Group: Impact of our regional transportation systems

Meeting called to order at 5:35 followed by welcome and introductions.

**Approval of last meeting minutes:**

Motion made to accept minutes by Sally Sherman, Seconded Jennie K, all in favor – no opposed.

**Guest Speakers: EASTCONN on Executive Function and Social Competence:**

Half hour presentation included a video on executive function skills and why they are so important: Center on the development child Harvard. Executive functions can be trained – more practice – strengthen connections. These are skills that can be supported through similar strategies and taught.

For more information on programs around executive function and social competence, please contact Melanie-Smith Cervera at [msmith-cervera@eastconn.org](mailto:msmith-cervera@eastconn.org).

**School Readiness Updates:**

OEC has asked to submit if open spaces and if they can take more spaces. We did put some in for Brooklyn, Plainfield, Thompson and Sterling. Completed monitoring visits: Plainfield, Sterling and Putnam

Thompson: monitoring visits happened in October – everything is good – few new teachers that have to learn the LEP’s – first aid and CPR is completed.

**Regional Director Updates:**

Equity Grant – Training starting tomorrow Tuesday, November 19th from 8:30-2:30 p.m. agenda will focus on more skills to interrupt forms of bias and discrimination, followed by ways to move towards action and change and then knowledge on how to effectively talk about racism and other forms of prejudice with students and parents.

Parent Leadership Grant: Waiting for announcement on grant award.

Community Champion Dinner – had a very successful award dinner, over 70 people attended, pictures will be posted on the council website

Task Forces:

MHTF - Task force meeting monthly, the third Wednesday at United Services. Each meeting will have a guest speaker. If you are interested in attending, please let Krissy know to get on email reminder.

Attendance Task Force: Meeting with two YSB’s to come up with communication / outreach plan for schools based on feedback from last April’s meeting.

CT Children’s Collective: Attended the September 19th quarterly meeting with Beth Bye as guest speaker. The next quarterly meeting is December 12th, 10:30-1:00 - this will be the official "launch" of the CT Children's Collaborative which the NECC are members of. Possible grant opportunities in the future for local early childhood collaborative like ours.

**Regional Programing / Community Updates:**

3 Spots for CPR / First aid – tomorrow at Killingly FRC if someone needs training – Sally offered the spots.

Plainfield FRC: Hidden in Plain Sight, it’s a Mock bedroom & PowerPoint presentation – one night 2 hour program. Helps parents to learn about teenage children around drug awareness. Offered community Wide. There’s a flyer – January 29th 6-8th.

* Will Share with Krissy to Post Flyer – RSVP ahead of time.

UCFS – Early Intervention program – negative behaviors in classrooms – parents can refer, no wait list. Family directed, purely voluntary (cannot be DCF involved). Age range 0-18 – work mostly with preschoolers. Contact directly – flexible hours – can work 8 a.m. - 8 p.m

TEEG has a few things going on. Hang time – afterschool program (Wednesday afternoons till 5). Showing a documentary – place at the table – deep rooted of issues of food insecurity. They are going to be reading Polar Express – 5:30-7:00 – Pizza and hot chocolate. Open to all.

**Focus Group: Impact of our regional transportation systems**

Ian Harrington – MBA – working with non-profits. Kathleen Krider and Kristen Hempel, put him in touch with NECC as a great group to conduct a focus groups as we are connected in some way to those who need services. Half hour focus group conducted with NECC members.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:15 p.m.