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**NORTHEAST EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL**

**Monday, May 2, 2022**

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

**ZOOM Meeting**

**In Attendance:** Myra Ambrogi, Patty Buell, Patty Bryant, Rena Cadro, Kristine Cicchetti, Jessica Duffy, Shannon Haney, Paula Graef, Diane Gozemba, MaryEllen Jones, Keely MacAlister, Tammy Miner, Heather Nickerson, Laurence Prentiss, Christine Rosati Randall, Erin Rhault, Melinda Smith, Sally Sherman, Melanie Smith-Cervera, Dan Sullivan, Austin Tanner, Kim Theroux, Barbara Tetreault, Mark Weaver, Alison Whiston

Parent Ambassadors: Kelley Robbins  
Guest Speakers: Adele Winters, Cook Center for Human Connection [adele.winter@cookcenter.org](mailto:adele.winter@cookcenter.org)

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Guest Speaker: Adele Winters
3. School Readiness Updates
4. NECC Updates- Regional Director
5. Regional Programing / Community Updates
6. School Readiness Voting / Bylaw voting

**Guest Speaker:**

Non-profit, family foundation, originally created to focus on suicide prevention. What’s important to us is bringing together the best programs and partnerships to build a very strong partnership at home. Adele presents the PowerPoint (please view the entire 40-minute presentation video here: <https://vimeo.com/708022103>).

Families are 10x likely to access mental health services when the schools are involved. The founders created the Cook Center for Human Connection, a place to help you get as many resources available. Statistics, suicide is the 1st leading cause of death in ages 10-24. Something happened 2008-2015 for ages 5-17 that doubled hospital visits and suicidal ideations – do you know what it is? It’s social media unfortunately. There are many free resources for families and staff (parentguidance.org) is a one stop shop for parents with e-courses and “ask a therapist” section that answers get posted in FAQ section of website.

Middle and high school view “My life is worth living series” videos, these are for older children. The other free resources are the free mental health night where we have a licensed therapist online to answer questions. Mental health series which presents on topics. There are some grants, they have not been released yet. Here are some resources: free resources [www.parentguidance.org](http://www.parentguidance.org) and [www.mylifeisworthliving.org](http://www.mylifeisworthliving.org). She can do the presentation for their administrators any time, short video that shows services they provide: <https://app.box.com/s/3xurax55zj3qyo31ttety2up59s1j6a6/file/872205277980>

* **Staff to follow-up with Leadership to see if the NECC wants to host a mental health night.**

**Staff Updates:**

Parent Leadership Grant Award: We are in week 8 of the PEP training, we have 11 parents who have participated in the training. They are working on their community project; they will be collecting items to be donated to a variety of community agencies. Collection will continue through May 31, 2022. The graduation for these parents will be June 2, 2022 at Putnam Elementary.

Mental Health Task Force: Next Tuesday, May 24, 2022, this is the last meeting for this year. Meeting 9-10:30 a.m. via zoom. Let us know if you want to be included in that list serve. Project: SEL Kits for families, created a survey to engage the community/business in the project.

Regional Resource Guide

Will be convening a sub-committee over the summer to work on this project.

NECC COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2022/2023: The dates for the Council meetings for next year will and will continue in zoom format, with dates to follow the same calendar (3rd Monday). Dates: September 19th, November 7th, January 23rd, March 13th, May 1st .

**Community Programs Sharing:**

Kelly Robbins: Shares information on access agency events, access to employment session at the Willimantic library, transit district meeting coming up.

* **If anyone has flyers or events to share, please forward to Kris.**

**Bylaw Review and Voting**

Kristine presents to the group the bylaw revisions and how the structure of the council has led to the revisions of the bylaws. The bylaws were emailed to the group two weeks prior for review. Group reviews the drafted amendments, no questions. Motion made to accept the amendments as presented by Tammy Miner, seconded by Sally Sherman, no discussion, all in favor, no abstentions.

* **Krissy to update revision on bylaws and send to the group.**

**School Readiness Grant Voting**

Sub- Committee put together overview of each town that shows the QE & SR grant funding. Leadership has reviewed and approved to move to vote tonight. We will take two separate votes, one for the QE and one for School Readiness grant funding. There is a process for SR grants to be reviewed by reader panel, all of these programs were recommended for funding.

Diane Gozemba: Asks if there are any new allocations for readiness spaces or if there are changes? They are all the same, except for Thompson – they just moved slots from part day to school day. Just changed slot type.

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| Town | Quality Enhancement Budget | School Readiness Spaces | School Readiness Local Budget Amount | School Readiness Administrative Budget Amount | School Readiness Community Budget Amount | Voting Information – Done Separately for School Readiness & Quality Enhancement Grants |
| Brooklyn | $3,881.00 | 24 part day | $108,000.00 | $5,400.00 | $113,400.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Sally Sherman, seconded by Myra Ambrogi, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Patty Buell and Austin Tanner  QE: Motion to approve by Myra Ambrogi, seconded by Tammy Minder, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Patty Buell and Austin Tanner |
| Canterbury | $3,881.00 | 42 part day | $189,000.00 | $9,450.00 | $198,450.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Myra Ambrogi seconded by Sally Sherman, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: None  QE: Motion to approve by Myra Ambrogi seconded by Heather Nickerson, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: None |
| Killingly | $3,881.00 | 54 school day 6 part day | $351,000.00 | $17,550.00 | $368,550.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Patty Buell seconded by Barbara Tetreault, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Sally Sherman  QE: Motion to approve Patty Buell seconded by Tammy Miner, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Sally Sherman |
| Plainfield | $3,881.00 | 10 part day 18 full day | $205,632.00 | $10,282.00 | $215,914.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Patty Bryant, seconded by Sally Sherman, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Myra, Barbara, Rena and Tammy  QE: Motion to approve Diane Gozemba seconded by Patty Buell, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Myra, Barbara, Rena and Tammy |
| Putnam | $6,477.00 | 35 full day  18 school day  36 part day | $582,340.00 | $29,117.00 | $611,457.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Sally Sherman, seconded by Myra Ambrogi, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Patty Bryant, Dan Sullivan  QE: Motion to approve by Sally Sherman, seconded by Diane Gozemba, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Patty Bryant, Dan Sullivan |
| Sterling | $3,881.00 | 24 part day | $108,000.00 | $5,400.00 | $113,400.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Patty Buell, seconded by Dan Sullivan, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Heather Nickerson  QE: Motion to approve by Patty Bryant, seconded by Dan Sullivan, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: Heather Nickerson |
| Thompson | $3,881.00 | 12 school day 7 part day | $103,500.00 | $5,175.00 | $108,675.00 | SR: Motion to approve by Tammy Minder, seconded by Diane Gozemba, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: None  QE: Motion to approve by Sally Sherman, seconded by tammy Minder, no discussion, all in favor. Abstain: None |

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**UPCOMING COUNCIL ZOOM MEETINGS for 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Monday’s: September 19th, November 7th, January 23rd, March 13th, May 1st