

Enfield School Readiness Council
And
KITE Collaborative
at the
Stowe Early Learning Center
Wednesday, November 1, 2017 5:30p.m.

The mission of KITE is to ensure that Enfield's children are healthy, safe and happy; live in thriving families; and are ready to learn the skills they need to succeed in school and flourish in the 21st century.

Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions- LeAnn Beaulieu

There were 18 people in attendance:

Sue Neville	KITE	Keith Vujs	Parent/BOKS
Tim Neville	KITE	Kristin Raiche	Enfield Public Library
Don Ellis	Enfield Fire Dept.	Carlene Elrick	Adult Ed.
Katy Lee	KITE	Midge Pych	Community Member
Damian Huphrey	DSS	Ryan Obedzinski	ERfC
Karen Edelson	ECDC	Jaclyn Valley	STEAM PreK
Amrita Choudhury	KITE	Michelle Mattia	ShopRite
Patti Glaspie	Here Wee Grow	Jennifer Moncuse	KITE
LeAnn Beaulieu	KITE	Chris Gomeau	KITE

II. Acceptance of Minutes from the September 6, 2017 meeting

Meeting minutes were unanimously accepted as written

III. School Readiness Business/Update – Damian Humphry reported that last month they attended an OEC conference in Hartford. Conversations were centered around early care and education and the budget. Karen Edelson reported that the ECDC staff registry is up to date. The teaching position has been filled. All 28 student spots are currently full. The Quality Enhancement grant has been cut a little bit down to \$3,800. Use of the QE grant will be for professional development to be determined.

IV. KITE Updates:

a. Leadership Committee Updates:

- Meeting Updates:
 - People who have signed up to work on developing an equity statement for KITE will be meeting on November 2nd at Stowe at 3:30.
 - The KITE Bylaws have been revised taking in to account all of the suggestions and recommendations made by the collaborative. The revisions were passed out to the attendees and Chris Gomeau will email them to the collaborative. A vote on the Bylaws will be taken at the December KITE meeting on December 6, 2017.
 - On October 20th, KITE submitted an application to the WCGMF for an Inspiring Equity in Education Continuation Grant. There are three components to our proposal. The first is funding two community conversations bringing the PEP classes, PLA and the Enfield community at large together. Videos will be used at each as conversation starters. The second component is for an assembly at the high school entitled "Imagine a World Without Hate" (ADL) along with teacher facilitation training. Another goal is for the high school students to have an impact on primary school students. Finally, through this grant there would be professional development for preschool teachers on culturally responsible teaching.
 - KITE has also been contacted by the Fund for Greater Hartford re. possible backbone support funding.

- Budget Update: Jen Moncuse reported that in order to give an accurate budget report we will be reporting two months in arrears. Please see attached for budget update.

b. Area Focus Teams:

- **Result #1: Enfield's children are safe, happy and healthy.**

1. **Health- BOKS-** The BOKS program is underway at the 6 schools. This is an 8 week program and runs through December 14th. It is funded by Action for Healthy Kids. There are 110 kids district wide participating and there are waiting lists at some schools.
2. **Mental/Behavioral Health-** This committee is continuing to look at social/emotional assessments. Dr. Calnen is still leading the charge. Katie Lee reported that they did not receive the CATCH Implementation funding. Youth Services has invited KITE to participate in a group that is being put together to look at attendance and its impact on mental health.
3. **Developmental Screening Initiative-** This committee will be meeting on Monday, November 06, 2017.

- **Result #2: Enfield's children live in thriving families with strong ties to neighbors and the community.**

1. **Parent Engagement-** The Stowe FTO is starting to meet. They held their first meeting on October 24th. There will an evening meeting on November 2nd. The FTO is putting on an event called Winter Celebrations on Wednesday, December 13th from 5-6:30 in the Stowe gym. Amrita, along with others from the various PEP classes will be participating in the Winter Traditions event which will be held on December 5th.
2. **Family Resource Centers-** The FRC was the recipient of the proceeds and LEGO product from the 2017 LEGO 5K Family Race. This annual event, which was held on September 23, 2017, brought in \$43,227 which will be used to sustain the Stowe FRC. Members of the race committee visited the FRC last week during a playgroup to bring the check and meet families, and they were very impressed with our site and the Play Lab. In the state budget the FRCs are set to be funded at \$100,000. Towns with more than one state funded center will have to close one site. This won't impact Enfield because the Stowe site is not state funded. They are in the process of completing the necessary paperwork to submit their request for funding which includes a relocation request since our grant was for our site at Enfield Street School. Programs are up and running at both sites and the November newsletter is available their website and Facebook page. They have had high attendance at programs and positive feedback from families.
3. **Partners in Education-** There was no report given at this meeting.
4. **Parent Leadership Academy-** Lisa Rogers is planning a PLA/PEP alumni dinner which will take place in January. Additional information will follow.
5. **People Empowering People-** Lorena Cisneros has reported that she has 5 new families that are interested in participating in Spanish PEP

- **Result #3: Enfield's children are ready to learn the skills they need to succeed and flourish in the 21st century.**

1. **Transition to Kindergarten/Quality Enhancement** – Enfield Gets Ready for Kindergarten will be held in February. At the FTO meeting at Stowe parents expressed that they would like to have the opportunity to meet the bus drivers that their children will be riding with. There may be an opportunity here to connect families and the bus company. The Quality Enhancement grant was cut a little to \$3,800.
2. **3 to 3 Committee-** The most recent meeting was cancelled. They will report at the December meeting.
3. **Primary Schools Report:** No report was given at this meeting.
4. **First Readers-** The first ceremony of the new school year will be held on Monday, November 6th at Enfield High School. This will be the first time that the ceremony is

held at Enfield High. The Superintendent of School, Chris Drezek and the Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Longey will be the masters of ceremony for the event. Volunteers are always needed.

5. **Book Buddies:** The first delivery of books is scheduled to be delivered before Christmas.

- **Cross-Cutting Strategy: Expand playful learning opportunities for young children in preschool, at home, and in the community.**

1. **Stowe Early Learning Center-** The Stowe Open House held on October 12th was a success. All programs are doing well and working collaboratively with one another.
2. **Enfield Plays On-** On October 20th we had 25 volunteers from Pratt & Whitney visit our Play Lab to help assemble Winter Playcation kits. This was made possible by a 2017 United Way Year of Caring grant award. The event was a success and the volunteers expressed interest in returning to help us again. There is a training for the Play Ambassadors scheduled with EA Ashenbrenner. At the conclusion of the Winter Placation activities we are partnering with the EPL for a "Noon Years Eve" party. The Pop up Planetarium is scheduled for January 20th. Last year's snow event was a big success. They are looking for ideas for this years event. Along with the health benefits of the BOKS program there is also a play component.

V. Announcements

- Don Ellis and the Enfield Fire Department was thanked for visiting Stowe and providing fire safety to the pre-k classes. The children really enjoyed the program.
- Tim Neville thanked KITE for the information sent to the TC and BOE candidates. He recommends we continue to communicate with both the BOE and TC once the election is over and the candidates are chosen.
- The United Way will be hosting Read Aloud sessions with pre-k students in Enfield. They are looking for volunteers to read. This will take place at the Stowe Early Learning Center beginning November 8th and running monthly through May. Any questions or to volunteer your time you can call 860-493-1132 or visit UnitedWayInc.org
- ERfC: Is continuing their Tonight in Thompsonville program. It is held once/month and offers a free dinner and family activities. For more information please contact Ryan at robedzinski@erfc.us or call 860-253-9935. The ERfC Winter Calendar is now up on their website.
- The Family Literacy program enrollment has dropped since its location was changed to Fermi. They are looking for help getting the word out to families about programs they offer as well as the fact that they are on the Magic Carpet Bus route.
- The Enfield Food Shelf is accepting donations of turkeys and hams from November 1st – December 15th. Their goal is to collect 1,200. Tree-mendous Celebration at the Enfield Square. From November 24th-December 10th donate a decorated tree or wreath. Christmas trees and wreaths will be raffled at the end of the event. The admission is free so come and see the beautiful displays. This event benefits the Women's Club of Enfield and the Enfield Food Shelf. From November 24th – December 24th at the Enfield Square volunteers will wrap your gifts for a donation to benefit the Enfield Safe Harbor Warming Center and the Enfield Food Shelf.

VI. Next Steps

VII. Adjourn