

**ENFIELD SCHOOL READINESS COUNCIL
KITE COLLABORATIVE
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4, 2024, 5:30 P.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.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – LeAnn Beaulieu, Former KITE Chairperson

There were 18 members present		
Brianna Beckstrand- KITE	Dr. Gerald Calnen- Board of Education	Karen Edelson- Social Services
Melanie Dube- KITE	LeAnn Beaulieu- KITE	Kristin Herzig- Parent Ambassador
Jennefer Ryan- KITE	Eileen Gardner- ECDC	Katie Carlton- PLA Alumni
Kari Aretta- KITE	Lanie LeBrun- Enfield Food Shelf	Adrienne Snow- Enfield Public Schools
Kristin Raiche- Enfield Public Library	Leslie Lawlor- PLA	Jaclyn Valley- Enfield Public Schools
Amy Morales- Social Services	Heather Pinto-Cohn- ECDC	Alena Josephson- Child First

ACCEPTANCE OF KITE MEETING MINUTES- November Minutes

- The November 6, 2024, KITE Meeting Minutes were approved.

SCHOOL READINESS BUSINESS/QUALITY ENHANCEMENT UPDATE

- All 28 slots are full at ECDC.
- McKinney Vento Update:
 - Numbers of homeless students provided by Julie Carroll, McKinney-Vento Liaison:
 - PK: 0
 - K-2: 4
 - 3-5: 5
 - Middle School: 9
 - High School: 9
- Early Start:
 - The first application for Early Start was released and this is for continued funding of the School Readiness slots for Fiscal Year 2026 and the Child Day Care slots which are for infants, toddlers and school age children at ECDC. This grant is completed by the program and does not need Council approval. Head Start is also eligible for continued funding. The second round of funding for Fiscal Year 2026 will be a competitive process open to any licensed childcare or school district program. This application has not been released yet. The Early Start page on the OEC website has more information including questions and answers that they have been updating.
- There is a resource available for early childhood providers that have questions related to housing and homelessness with a dedicated email of homelessinfo@edadvance.org - this connects providers to Early Childhood Specialists that have knowledge of the McKinney-Vento act.
- Classroom updates: We are currently planning for a Gingerbread Jamboree, all classrooms will be creating Gingerbread houses and inviting their families to join them. This will be held on December 18th. Two preschool classrooms will also hold holiday concerts for the families to attend. The center has hired two new teachers for the Toddler and School Age program. They will be starting within the next two weeks.
- Heather Pinto-Cohn, Lead Preschool Teacher at ECDC and Eileen Gardner, Senior Site Manager at ECDC gave a presentation on Pyramid model, Circle of Security, Home Visits and Bridging the Gap.

EQUITY- Adrienne Snow, Enfield Public Schools

- Adrienne shared a story called, "The Shortest Day." Many of the holidays and traditions are represented throughout the book.

KITE UPDATES

- **Leadership Workgroup Updates**
 - The second half of FY 24-25 OEC funding has been confirmed. KITE received their award for their multi-year funding from The Fund for Greater Hartford in the amount of \$50,000.00 and \$5,000 for a second Wellness Grant for KITE staff.
- **Budget**
 - KITE expenditures for FY2025 –October Expenditures \$13,881.37. You can e-mail Brianna with any questions.
- **Communications**
 - In the month of November KITE published 22 posts.
 - 17 posts KITE specific (Your Voice Your Vote Campaign, PLAYPaks, Parent Leadership Summit, Parent Ambassador Spotlight, Welcoming Hannah, Heritage Fair Committee, PLA, Fall/Winter Community Resource Guide). 5 partner/community content shares (Bridge Project for expecting moms, Warming Shelter, Social Services Winter Traditions, Care4Kids Listening Session, Torchlight Parade) 2,800 total reaches | Up 21.8% | 13,000 total views | Up 31.7% | 348 total engagements (Up 29%) | #1 post Community Resource Guide 1,900 reached 12 interactions. #2 post Parent Leadership Summit- Katie Spotlight 1,800 reached 54 interactions.

AREA FOCUS TEAMS:

- **Result #1: Enfield's Children are Safe, Happy, and Healthy**
 - **Infant/Child Mental Health**
 - Chris presented to the ETC Mental Health and Wellness Coalition's Leadership Workgroup about KITE and our work in mental health for young children. Brianna went with Joanna Fornwalt (Clinical Care Coordinator, Social Services) and Jessica Spera (Director of Nursing, Enfield Public Schools) to Enfield Pediatric Associates to discuss resources, attendance, and referrals. They will be meeting with Dr. Villa's in December and are in the process of scheduling Pioneer Valley Pediatrics. KITE's Mental Health Committee will meet next in January.
 - **Sparkler**
 - There are 913 children registered for Sparkler. 59% of completed ASQ's were on track and 80% for the ASQ-SE. There was a total of 24 referral recommendations, the highest areas being communication and fine motor skills.
- **Result #2: Enfield's children live in thriving families with strong ties to neighbors and the community.**
 - **KITE/EPS Family Engagement Partnership**
 - See Heritage Fair.
 - **Parent Leadership Academy**
 - Leslie shared that there was a Parent Square announcement for PLA and that they were up to 11 applicants. They can only take 15 so if you know anyone interested, please let them know spaces are filling up fast.
 - Leslie also shared that Karen Campbell will be the new PLA Assistant Coordinator.
 - **Parent Leadership Summit, Katie Carlton, PLA Alumni**
 - Katie shared about her experience at the Parent Leadership Summit. Katie spoke about how empowering it was to sit on the panel, and she felt very comfortable speaking thanks to all she learned in her PLA class.
 - **Parent Ambassadors**
 - Kristin shared that the Parent Ambassadors will have a table at Winter Traditions on Thursday December 12th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. They will be meeting after the holidays to discuss more events.
 - **Heritage Fair**
 - The Heritage Fair planning committee had their first meeting. Tentative date pending building and grounds approval is March 29th. Next meeting is Tuesday December 10th at JFK at 530. Anyone interested in participating can email Hannah at hsong@enfield.org.
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- **Result #3: Enfield's children are ready to learn the skills they need to succeed and flourish in the 21st century.**
 - **3 TO 3**
 - The committee is working on a de-stress campaign for the holidays. They will be holding a play science night again in the spring. The next meeting will be January 29, 2025.
 - **First Readers**
 - Kristin shared that they will be holding two ceremonies this year, she will let us know dates at the next meeting.
 - Trivia night will be held on February 22, 2025. Tickets will be on sale after the new year.
 - Next meeting will be held later this month.
 - **Book Buddies**
 - No new updates.
 - **Rocking Chair Readers**
 - Readers and teachers have been contacted about interest for this school year. Some of the readers have started in the classrooms and we are still waiting on a couple of responses.
 - **2GEN (Tabled)**
 - **Play Lab (Tabled)**

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.