

**ENFIELD SCHOOL READINESS COUNCIL  
KITE COLLABORATIVE**

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 8, 2025, 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 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Carol LaLiberte, KITE Chairperson

There were 16 members present		
Brianna Beckstrand- KITE	George Hendrickson- Ujima	Hannah Song- KITE
Carol LaLiberte- Asnuntuck Comm. College	LeAnn Beaulieu- KITE	Alena Josephson- Child First
Marie Pyznar- Town Council	Eileen Gardner- ECDC	Katie Carlton- PLA Alumni
Kari Aretta- KITE	Lanie LeBrun- Enfield Food Shelf	Amy Morales- Social Services
Kristin Raiche- Enfield Public Library	Leslie Lawlor- PLA	Amy Witbro- LWG
Jennefer Ryan- KITE		

Carol asked members to write a word or short phrase to describe their year ahead. Examples include (but not limited to): Possibilities, Peace, Joy, Upward Growth, Renewal, Emotional Strength, Let Them, and Endurance.

**ACCEPTANCE OF KITE MEETING MINUTES- December Minutes**

- The December 4, 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: 1
    - K-2: 6
    - 3-5: 5
    - Middle School: 9
    - High School: 9
  - Governor Lamont has activated the severe cold weather protocol through 12:00 pm on Thursday, January 9th. Please see below for warming center information and resources:
    - Enfield Safe Harbor Warming Center will open one hour earlier at 6:00 pm during this activation.
    - Other warming locations include Central Library (M/T/W/Th 9:00 am to 8:00 pm), Pearl Street Library (M/T/W/Th 10:00 am to 8:00 pm), Senior Center (M/W/Th 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, T 8:00 am to 5:00 pm), Police Department Lobby 24/7.
      - From <https://www.enfield-ct.gov/429/Social-Services>
- Early Start:
  - The first application for Early Start 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, was received by OEC and we are awaiting the funding award. The second round of funding for Fiscal Year 2026 with the plan to transition from School Readiness Councils to Local Governance Partners has not been released yet. Brianna and Carol and Amy have been attending meetings and will keep everyone informed as new details emerge.
- Quality Enhancement:
  - Pyramid Model- ECDC is continuing to work with Melanie from EASTCONN, Pyramid coach. She will be coming on Monday 1/13 for her scheduled observation, then will return on Monday 1/27 for the Pyramid Leadership Team meeting.
  - Monitoring- Lisa Carriere will be scheduling classroom observations for this month.
  - Licensing: A visit is expected before February 1.
  - Circle of Security- ECDC is scheduling our next Circle of Security Classroom sessions with the Toddler and School Age Staff.
  - Parent-Teacher Home Visits will begin again when summer enrollment starts.
  - Bridging the Gap- Project with CCMC Developmental Pediatrician to train staff in administering MCHAT screenings to children- The next meeting for this is on Monday 1/13
  - Classroom Updates- ECDC will be scheduling a visit to Mark Twain Housing for Valentine's Day.

**EQUITY- Zion Beckstrand, Mackenzie Filanowicz - Enfield Public Schools 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students**

- Zion and Mackenzie shared their Kid Governor speeches on Mental Health strategies and Afterschool clubs incorporating senior citizens and inclusion in their visions. Both platforms align to KITE's mission.

## KITE UPDATES

- **Leadership Workgroup Updates**
  - KITE submitted interim OEC report. Will submit final reporting for Hartford Foundation for Public Giving this week. Progress Updates to the Enfield Early Childhood Community Plan were shared and discussed.
- **Budget**
  - KITE expenditures for FY2025 –November Expenditures \$17,438.34. You can e-mail Brianna with any questions.
- **Communications**
  - In the month of December KITE published 27 posts.
  - 26 posts KITE specific (Holiday De-stress, Holiday Wishes, PLA). 1 partner/community content shares (Lunch Link) 2,200 total reaches | Down 22.4% | 11,700 total views | Down 13% | 401 total interactions (Up 11.4%) | #1 post-Holiday De-stress Video- Circle of Security (Shared by FRC) 1,721 reached 63 interactions. #2 post Parent Ambassadors at Winter Traditions 1,200 reached 32 interactions.

## AREA FOCUS TEAMS:

- **Result #1: Enfield's Children are Safe, Happy, and Healthy**
  - **Infant/Child Mental Health**
    - Committee is meeting later this month on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 5:00 pm via Zoom.
  - **Sparkler**
    - There are 942 children registered in Sparkler. In the last month, a total of 433 Plays have been logged. 60% of completed ASQs were on track, and 65% for the ASQ-SE. There was a total of 23 recommendations for referrals, the highest area of needs being in personal social, problem solving, and communication.
- **Result #2: Enfield's children live in thriving families with strong ties to neighbors and the community.**
  - **KITE/EPS Family Engagement Partnership**
    - KITE and EPS are beginning to look at dates for Enfield Gets Ready for Kindergarten Night.
  - **Parent Leadership Academy**
    - Leslie shared that the retreat is set for Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup> and that they only have 4 spots remaining. If you know anyone interested, please let them know spaces are filling up fast and the deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup> to apply.
  - **Parent Ambassadors**
    - The Parent Ambassadors attended Winter Traditions on Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>. They shared some unique New Years traditions and had two activities that went along with those traditions.
  - **Heritage Fair**
    - The committee has made great headway with our planning. We have been reaching out to vendors to verify interest in participating. So far, we have 10 tables and 2 performers. We are also looking into having approved food trucks this year. We've had 2 meetings so far and at the second one, Joel Senez gave us a tour of JFK to show us all the new changes since the last Heritage Fair. Our next meeting is 5:30 pm, Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at JFK. Anyone interested in participating can email Hannah at [hsong@enfield.org](mailto:hsong@enfield.org).
- **Result #3: Enfield's children are ready to learn the skills they need to succeed and flourish in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.**
  - **3 TO 3**
    - The committee held a de-stress social media campaign for the holiday. They will be holding a play science night again in the spring. The next meeting will be held on January 29, 2025.
  - **First Readers**
    - Trivia night will be held on February 22, 2025, at Mount Carmel. Tickets will be on sale after the new year, check the First Readers Facebook page for updates.
    - Next meeting will be held at 5:00pm on January 15 at Enfield Public Library.
  - **Book Buddies**
    - They have a tentative date. Don will reach out to Jennefer when the date has been confirmed.
  - **Rocking Chair Readers**
    - Readers and teachers have been contacted about interest for this school year. We had some new readers that have started in the classrooms, and we are still waiting on a couple of responses. If you know anyone that is interested, please reach out to Melanie.
  - **2GEN (Tabled)**
  - **Play Lab (Tabled)**

## ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.