

Enfield School Readiness Council
And
KITE Collaborative
at the
Stowe Early Learning Center
Wednesday, September 5, 2018 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 21 people in attendance:

Kristin Raiche	Enfield Public Library	Jennefer Ryan	KITE
Don Ellis	Enfield Fire Dept.	Carlene Elrick	Community Member
Jen Moncuse	KITE	Jaclyn Valley	EPS
Karen Edelson	ECDC	Michelle Stewart	EPS
Malissa Griffith	KITE/Play	Amy Witbro	EPS
Patti Glaspie	Here Wee Grow	Amy Morales	FRC
LeAnn Beaulieu	KITE	Chris Gomeau	KITE
Melany Anderson	KITE	Karen Weseliza	KITE
Lisa Rogers	PLA	Brianna Beckstrand	KITE
Russell Sills	EPS	Ruth Sales	CHR
Ryan Obedzinski	ERFC		

II. Acceptance of Minutes from the June 6th, 2018 meeting

The meeting minutes from June 6th were unanimously accepted. The September meeting minutes will be accepted at the November 7, 2018 KITE Meeting.

III. School Readiness Business/Update

1. Damian Humphry is no longer the liaison for School Readiness. Amy Morales is now in this role. LeAnn Beaulieu is the cochair.
2. ECDC filled all 28 slots for this year. Monthly reports have been submitted.
3. There is \$3,800 in Quality Enhancement so there will be more opportunities for professional development in the fall.

IV. KITE Updates:

a. Leadership Committee Updates:

• **Annual Meeting:**

- A save the date has been sent for the annual KITE meeting. This is the yearly gathering of partners, leaders, and community members. The date will be 10/3/18 from 5:30-7:30 at Enfield High School. The culinary class will be providing dinner. Childcare will also be provided. There will be a key note speaker.

• **Regional Network Collaborative:**

- KITE was invited to participate in a Regional Network Collaborative. KITE is one of 5 communities part of the collaborative. Communities involved

are Manchester, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Bloomfield, and Enfield. Together the communities will work on early childhood issues.

- KITE has the opportunity from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to do work with 2-Gen. KITE would like to bring people to discuss what this work would look like in Enfield.
- Funding from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has allowed KITE to hire Jennefer Ryan as the Marketing Coordinator. Jennefer has designed a new logo for KITE.
- **Community Assessment Goals/Committee**
 - Leadership Work Group spent a day going over the community assessment and identified 3 areas of most concern.
 - The first area was Indicator 3 – Strategic Use of Data. Leadership Work Group has reworked job responsibilities and Melany Anderson will be working with LeAnn Beaulieu on this. They will be meeting next week to begin this work. Hartford Foundation for Public Giving hired an evaluator for the Regional Network Collaborative. They will be coaching on model data collection, so KITE will have support as they develop a plan. They will be collecting more than just numerical data but also anecdotal data.
 - The next area was Indicator 6 - Support of local leaders. This was tabled due to the election in November. KITE is planning for connections and to share with Town Council. LeAnn Beaulieu and Chris Gomeau will be planning to meet with Town Council two times per year, the winter and the spring. They will be requesting to meet with the Mayor.
 - The last area was Indicator 8 – Communication. This has been made into a position within KITE. Jennefer Ryan has been hired and will be developing a communications plan. She will be looking at what we need to do and how to do it as well as what resources we need to share. Coming in January will be a living document that will change based on funding and community needs. This will be a year of people for KITE. KITE will be thoughtful about who sits at our table and who else should be at the table. They will be looking to start discussion groups to help frame what steps need to be taken to be reflective of our community. KITE will also be forming a committee to look at the assessment itself. Some things no longer apply. KITE will be looking for participants at the November meeting.
- **Equity**
 - Leadership Work Group has recognized this as an area where they are struggling. They are committed to move forward with Equity. They need the help of the collaborative in establishing goals and are looking for participants for a discussion on equity. There is work being done at Enfield High School and JFK Middle School. Last fiscal year KITE used equity funding for PEP. KITE wants to take equity to the next step and need more than just Leadership Work Group in this discussion.
- **Budget Update:**
 - Melany Anderson presented the budget report. She reported on expenses for the prior fiscal year (July 2017- June 2018) and July 2018.
 - Total expenses for the last fiscal year were \$148,529 and total expenses for July 2018 were \$11,010.

- Budget highlights were discussed. Any questions please contact Melany at manderson@enfieldschools.org.

b. Area Focus Teams:

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

1. **Health- BOKS-** Last year KITE ran BOKS, the free before school exercise program that is coordinated through Reeboks. KITE had grant funding to stipend trainers in the Fall. There weren't as many volunteers as they had hoped for, so they added additional funding to hire assistant trainers. The program was a success and by the end of the spring session there was already a waiting list for the Fall. There is no funding for the program for KITE to run the program this year. Leadership Work Group decided to inform PTOs, past trainers, parents of participants, and community members of the funding situation in hopes that there will be volunteers who might want to run the program. KITE will support volunteers and share experiences and materials. KITE would love to see BOKS continue. The program was a huge success and there was positive feedback from parents, teachers, and students. Teachers reported students were more engaged and ready to learn on BOKS days.
2. **Trauma Informed Schools** – The Trauma Informed School Mental Health Committee did not meet over the summer. All focus groups, key informant interviews were completed in addition to completing questionnaires about school mental health services into the SHAPE system. Yale University and the CHDI with Cecilia Singh as the consultant will complete the needs assessment in September to present to the next Trauma Informed School Mental Health Committee meeting, October 15th, at 4 p.m., Alcorn Administrative Offices. Based on the needs assessment, CHDI will be making recommendations on next steps. There is an upcoming conference at Harvard Medical School, School Mental Health Conference treating students K-12, January 25-26, 2019. We are looking to send a team to this conference to further develop skills and knowledge of trauma informed care and support in the educational setting. Maybe KITE could fund a few staff to attend.
3. **Social Emotional Learning-** A team from KITE participated in the Social Emotional Learning Institute offered by the OEC. A team of 5 people attended two trainings in New Haven over the summer to learn about the importance of social emotional learning. They will take what they have learned and form a larger committee to form an action plan. They have met once as a team and will be meeting again soon. The goal is to bring the work back to the larger community.

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

1. **Parent Engagement-** KITE collaborated with the FRC on a multicultural event for community providers and parents to discuss needs and gaps in the community. The discussion was enriching and there is hope to continue this work. KITE was at the Spanish assistance night to help fill out school forms. There was a discussion about issues parents are facing. Brianna will be working with Karen Edelson and Jaclyn Valley on the FTO to try and get parents from all

3 preschool programs at Stowe involved. The FTO is collecting all types of bottle caps. They will be punching holes in them and students can string them in the Play Lab to be hung around the building. There have been discussions on how to engage working parents and how to connect with them in evenings. KITE also attended ERFC's Lunch Bunch over the summer break.

2. **EPS Partnership Program.** – Michelle Stewart was hired as the School Community Partnership Liaison. She will be taking over the mentoring program and event planning. She is currently planning Family Day. Family Day is September 16th from 11:30 am – 4:00 pm. She is working on getting the word out and a flyer will be sent home with students. If you want to volunteer please email Michelle at mstewart@enfieldschools.org.
3. **Parent Leadership Academy-** Last Spring PLA had 9 graduates of which 3 were fathers. Alumni in the community are doing great work. PLA is applying for a state grant. PLA's 14th class is set to begin in February. PLA encourages parents who want to be leaders to apply for the class. Students learn public speaking, communication skills, how to run a meeting, and how the local government is set up. The class ends with a service project where students use the skills they have learned. PLA graduates have gone on to be part of the Town Council, Board of Education, PTO board members, and non-profit volunteers.
4. **People Empowering People-** PEP recently finished it's 5th year. 10 people were enrolled in the class and 9 people graduated. The class was held at the Enfield Annex. Being on the bus route in Enfield was helpful. The end of year project was an event where people could sample foods from different cultures and regions. The class was successful.

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

1. **3 to 3 Committee-** The 3 to 3 Committee has begun to map out the first half of the year. On October 25th the committee is bringing in Katherine Reynolds Lewis, an award-winning author who wrote 'The Good News About Bad Behavior', to hold a conference. There will be two nights. One for Educators and one for parents and community providers.
2. **Kindergarten Camp:** Kindergarten Camp was held over the summer through funding from the United Way. There were 19 students enrolled. Half of the students had preschool experience and the other half did not. The class was held by a Kindergarten teacher and two assistants. Students were bussed from Alcorn. At the end of the class there were Parent Teacher Conferences. They have kept in touch with parents and let them know they are still available for additional resources.
3. **First Readers-** The first meeting was held in August. Kristin Raiche will have dates for ceremonies available at the next KITE meeting. KITE would like to support First Readers and have our staff volunteering at ceremonies. Judy has stepped down as president and Charlotte Riley has taken over.

4. **Book Buddies/EFD Activities:** The Enfield Fire Department delivers books to students two times a year. The Fire Department does so much more than just Book Buddies. They came out for ECDC to take a photo on the ladder. They helped with the Enfield Plays On! Summer campfire. They go out to the schools to teach fire safety. They also do a lot for the library. The second Saturday in October will be a fire truck day at the library.

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

1. **Play** – Enfield Plays On! is two months into work for this fiscal year. There were dozens of play events held over the summer. Play Ambassadors will hold a meeting on September 11th to plan for this year. Over the summer 300 summer Playcation kits were given away. 200 were given away at the library in 90 minutes. The remaining 100 were given away at Lunch Bunch. Next year there is hope to give them away at a time that is convenient for working parents. Shawn Moore ran the idea of the day on Facebook and is working on analysis of how many people interacted. Enfield Plays On! will be holding a play conference on November 3rd at JFK. Malissa Griffith is organizing the conference. Registration will begin at Family Day. Tickets are \$10 and attendees will go home with around \$20 of materials.

V. Announcements

- My Gym will be at the Library on September 7th. Registration for Storytime has begun. There will be Family Bingo on September 14th. Library hours have changed and now closes at 5pm on Fridays.
- ERFC has moved to 174 South Road, Suite 200 in Enfield. Before and After School programs are open for enrollment. A Save the Date has been sent out for Fall for Enfield. This event includes food vendors, craft vendors, and family entertainment. If you want your program to be showcased please contact Ryan Obedzinski for more information.
- The next Tonight in Thompsonville will be held on October 10th. This is a family engagement event that provides a meal and incorporates educational activities. Community service providers are highlighted.
- The Family Resource Center's playgroups for ages birth through 5 will begin next week.
- The Stowe Early Learning Center's open house will be held on September 26th from 5:30-7:00.