



Enfield School Readiness Council
KITE Collaborative
Wednesday, December 7th, 2022, 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.st

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Introductions – LeAnn Beaulieu

- **There were 20 people at the meeting.**

Tiffany Howard- ECDC Parent

Jaclyn Valley- EPS

Carol LaLiberte- Asnuntuck Community College

Amy Morales- FRC/ School Readiness

Don Ellis- Enfield Fire Department

Danielle Girard- PFLAG Enfield

Michelle Zaugg- KITE

Melina LaBoy- CHR/ECCP

Jim Graham- Principal- Henry Barnard

Karen Edelson- Social Services

Sue Neville- Retired EPS Educator

Marie Pyznar- Town Council

Dr. Gerald Calnen- Board of Education

Jennefer Ryan- KITE

LeAnn Beaulieu- KITE

Brianna Beckstrand- KITE

Kristin Raiche- Enfield Public Library

Melissa Bednarz- Happy Time

Malissa Griffith- PLA

Elsa Reyes- The Village

II. Acceptance of KITE Meeting Minutes – November 2nd, 2022

- The November 2nd KITE minutes were accepted.

III. School Readiness Business/Quality Enhancement Update

- All 28 slots continue to be full at ECDC.

- **Accreditation Updates**

- ECDC's NAEYC Accreditation visit took place on November 7th and went well. A written report will be received with the scores in all the areas within the next 3 months.

- **Infant/Toddler Expansion Grants**

- OEC is putting out an opportunity only open to currently funded School Readiness funded sites to apply for 4-25 infant/toddler slots. The Council had to decide if they want to apply for this and respond to a survey that OEC will be sending out. Karen confirmed there is no space at ECDC to accommodate for any additional slots. Leadership Work Group voted unanimously to not apply for these slots at their December 6th meeting.

- **Classroom Updates**

- Heather's classroom is doing a unit on Bread and is culminating this with a family "bake-off" event next Friday night where families will decorate their own homemade breads. Other classrooms are also finishing this unit.

- **Quality Enhancement**
 - Classrooms have been having individual coaching sessions with Melanie Smith-Cervera from EastConn - her last session for Heather's room consisted of how to incorporate play scenarios in other areas of the room. Staff are finding it helpful. Melanie will also be coming in person to do some classroom observations and then provide feedback.
- **Parent Committee**
 - We are excited to report that Tiffany Howard is our new representative from ECDC- she is a parent of a child in Room 5, a 4-year-old room. Danielle Brown and Kristin Herzig will serve as our other two parent representatives as they are transitioning out of the Parent Ambassador role.

IV. **Equity**

a. **Winter Traditions**

- Winter Traditions took place at the Youth Center on December 1st. This was the first year it came back in person since the pandemic. The event went very well with organizations such as ERFC, Enfield Food Shelf, ECDC and KITE having tables that represented different countries winter traditions with an activity for children to complete.

b. **Community Conversation**

- KITE is currently working with the planning committee. Randy McCray will facilitate. There will be two sessions that will be held in the spring. The first session is for bringing people together and listen to everyone's input. The second session is for action planning. We need facilitators and note takers. Carol asked for anyone interested to let KITE know. The first session will be on March 29th and held at Asnuntuck Community College Conference Room.

c. **Heritage Fair**

- The planning committee last met on Wednesday, November 30th. The meeting went very well as members were able to see the space at JFK where the event will take place. Michelle passed out flyers to everyone and asked that if anyone is interested in or knows anyone interested in representing a country to be sure to fill out the forms that are on KITE's website. The next planning committee meeting is scheduled for December 19th at JFK.

V. **KITE Updates**

a. **Leadership Work Group**

- **Updates**
 - KITE submitted our final report Year 2 for the Fund for Greater Hartford and received our Year 3 check in the amount of \$50,000.
- **Budget**
 - Brianna Beckstrand presented the expenses for KITE expenditures for FY2023 – October: \$11,707.40. Any questions please contact Brianna at bbeckstrand@enfield.org.

○ **Communications**

OCT - NOV Social Media Stats for DEC KITE Report

- **In the month of NOV KITE published 20 posts**
- There were 14 posts KITE specific (job posting, holiday messages, time for you, annual meeting)

- 6 partner/community content shares (community resource guide, partner activities)
- 4,891 views= posts in their feed. Up 65% over October
- 920 total engagements (interacting with our posts) up 53%
- #1 post Employment Announcement (Sam Departure)
985 reached 260 engagements 151 clicks
- #2 Torchlight
497 reached 61 engagements
- BOOSTED (PAID)
JOB POST
2807 Reach 210 Engagements
- **In the month of OCT KITE published 12 posts**
- 14 posts were KITE specific (job posting, holiday messages, time for you, annual meeting)
- 3578 views= posts in their feed. Down 33%
- #1 post Heritage Fair Committee
1316 reached 107 engagements 42 clicks
- #2 TIME FOR YOU (3 posts)
2278 combined views

VI. Area Focus Teams:

- **Result #1: Enfield's children are safe, happy, and healthy.**
 1. **Infant/Child Mental Health**
 - No Update.
 2. **Other**
 - a. **Sparkler**
 - So far, 28 parents have downloaded app and completed a screening. Eileen monitors the dashboard every morning and lets classroom teachers know when a parent has completed one. Screenings with "concerns" will be made a priority to address. The grant has allowed funding for \$15 Target gift cards for completing - FRC will coordinate getting these to Eileen and ECDC will let families know. Grant also provided a kit for each classroom to let parents borrow to complete the ASQs.
 - At a future meeting, we will provide an overview of Sparkler so everyone can see what the dashboard looks like.
 - b. **Circle of Security**
 - The FRC is partnering with Enfield Public Schools to train Head Start and STEAM teachers. They have their last class this week.
- **Result #2: Enfield's children live in thriving families with strong ties to neighbors and the community.**
 1. **Family Educator Organization**
 - The FEO had a Coffee and Conversation which a couple Head Start/STEAM/Integrated teachers attended. It went well. The next meeting will be scheduled in the new year which will take place at night for those families that are not able to attend during the day.
 2. **EPS/KITE Partnership**
 - The Gesell Institute are summarizing information gathered from focus groups and surveys.
 3. **Parent Leadership Academy**

- PLA is starting February 4th, 2023. They are currently accepting applications and ask that if you know of anyone that would benefit from the program to reach out to Malissa Griffith at mgriffith@enfield.org.

4. People Empowering People

- Brianna mentioned that they are looking for facilitator to have Spanish PEP. Anyone interested can reach out to Brianna or Lorena Cisneros at lcisneros@enfieldschools.org.
- **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**
 - There is a plan in place to have a professional development about playful learning. The committee is also planning for an early educator meeting about the Sparkler App. There will be a January class about anti-bias to the EPS staff. Teachers in Head Start and STEAM have completed the Circle of Security course. Next, the assistant teachers will be taking the course.
 2. **First Readers**
 - Kristin Raiche shared that Trivia Night is coming back February 25th at 7pm at Mt. Carmel. Tickets will go on sale New Year’s Day. Ticket cost is \$15 per person, or you can purchase a reserved table of 10 for \$130. She mentioned to bring cash for speed rounds. Tickets will go on sale on their website, www.firstreaders.org.
 3. **Book Buddies**
 - Don Ellis shared that books were delivered to Enfield Street School. Hazardville Memorial School is scheduled. Henry Barnard School will be coming soon. He also mentioned that there is a program in the fire department for kids 14-18 to get involved in fire department and if anyone knows of someone interested, to have them reach out to him at dellis@enfield.org.
 4. **Rocking Chair Readers**
 - Michelle Zaugg shared that the program has 6 volunteers signed up at this time with a couple more waiting on some information. There are still 9 classrooms that have requested a reader. The plan is to start matching volunteers after the holidays.
- **Cross Cutting Strategies:**
 1. **2Gen**
 - The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, December 8th at the Chamber Office.

VII. Announcements

1. Danielle Girard, PFLAG- would like to welcome everyone to attend their support meetings/events. The age to attend in person is currently 13+ for youth. They meet the first Monday of every month. Then the third Saturday is virtual and is for adults only. They also have a coffee and chat at Panera scheduled for December 15th at 6:30. Some other upcoming events are on January 19th they are meeting at Barnes and Noble Starbucks. Pancakes with PFLAG fundraiser will be January 21st at 9 am. Sign up to become a member on the website. They are also in the start of planning an event on June 3rd which will be town wide event and they are currently looking for vendors.

2. Jaclyn Valley of EPS shared that Head Start/ Steam received their NYAEC approval! They were approved 97-98% each classroom. 95% overall.
 3. Melina LaBoy, CHR- has availability for classroom services and can offer her services in English or Spanish.
 4. Karen Edelson, Social Services- ECDC's 4-year-old room started intergeneration at Mark Twain. Kids can go on the Magic Carpet buses. Buses are currently free until March 31, 2023.
 5. Amy Morales- FRC/ School Readiness - shared handout for Enfield Together Coalition.
 6. Jim Graham Principal, Henry Barnard School- Shared that the primary level starting at Thanksgiving has lots of energy in the building. Classes are painting rocks for a rock garden to go outside where the bridge is. He wanted to mention the importance of supporting The Lions Club. They are sponsoring a party for the students in EPS special-ed program.
 7. Dr Calnen, BOE- last month the Board of Education voted to approve Head Start grant.
 8. Caro LaLiberte, Asnuntuck Community College- shared that winter session they will be having a class for the required Director 1 course. It is only 19 days to earn the credit and it takes place online.
 9. Elsa Reyes, The Village- Child First has openings for the daytime. They are currently scheduling a few weeks out for nighttime.
 10. Kristin Raiche, Enfield Public Library – December 15th Festival of Trees reception. They are still taking submissions and they are due by that day. Come in and see the trees made by different groups. On December 17th there is a drop and shop event from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm childcare. Kids do crafts, Legos, games and more. They could still use some teenager volunteers. The event is for children ages 5-12. There are also lots of winter break activities. To see them, you can visit the website.
- VIII.** Brianna Beckstrand, KITE- Shared that KITE is hiring for an Administrative Assistant.
- IX. Adjourn-6:51 pm**