

## **School Readiness Council Meeting**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 1, 2015**

**AHM**

**Present:** Donna Lanza (Co-Chair, Town of Hebron), Laurie Larsen (AHM), Cari Digou (KinderRHAMA PreK Teacher), Heather Holbrook (KinderRHAMA PreK Teacher), Marilyn Piecuch (School Readiness Liaison), Patti Buell (Co-Chair – School Readiness Coordinator), Michelle Hamilton (AHM), Brittany Garnelis (Park and Recreation), Nancy Simmons (School Readiness Clerk)

### **Approval of Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> Minutes**

Donna Lanza motioned to approve the October 27, 2015 minutes. Marilyn Piecuch seconded. No discussion. All were in favor.

### **Rivereast Article Update – Eric Brody**

Nancy will follow-up with Eric. Eric is hoping to get Geeta from the Rivereast to come on PreK screening day on January 6<sup>th</sup> so she can write an article on our School Readiness/PreK Program.

### **Enrollment/Recruitment – Patti Buell**

Patti reported we had 4 vacancies left as of last month (October). As of this month we have 3 vacancies now. One slot was filled. The Hebron Early Childhood Center Flyer and Brochure were completed (attached). Flyers and brochures were sent to the Town Hall, Library and AHM. Stephanie Levin called surrounding towns to see if they had any interest in our program. We are trying to get the word out. Brittany asked if PREP opened a half day program would it help to get in Prek half day program. We will look at it at lottery time (April, 2016).

### **Proposed Budget Approval (Motion needed) – Marilyn Piecuch**

Donna motioned to approve the budget (attached). Brittany Garnelis seconded. Donna Lanza would like total budget for program shown. She suggested a summary front page of complete School Readiness budget. Donna wants to be clear if public, Board of Education asks questions regarding our budget. Donna will draft an example of what she is suggesting and forward it to Patti Buell and Marilyn Piecuch. All were in favor.

### **Non-Resident School Readiness Policy – Marilyn Piecuch**

Marilyn presented the new policy (attached). Brittany motioned to approve (15<sup>th</sup> of September was the only change). Donna Lanza seconded. All were in favor.

### **State Updates – Marilyn Piecuch**

- We have to send in SR Report by end of November showing SR enrollment. State could take money back this year if we are not at full enrollment. We really need to fill SR spaces (\$6600.00) per student (\$19,800). We could also lose spaces for next year.
- Moms Club and Mothers of Preschoolers (MOP's) are great resources. We could get brochure to them. It was suggested we should put flyers in local pediatrician offices. There was an article put into Rivereast already. Nancy will put brochures together for PTA Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> to help get the word out.

- Revising Kindergarten Inventory (see attached)
- New release of assessment of ELDS (attached) – coming out early 2016/PD for teachers – part of grant – teachers are required to get 12 hours of PD.
- There is a required reporting system (Nancy and Marilyn working on)
- We have to submit grant policies and procedures to the state. Marilyn will send policies to committee members. Marilyn will write up policies after suggestions from council. We should do the work before we arrive at SR meeting. Per Marilyn 8 policies are complete 4 policies need work.

### **Research/Discussion on Late Birthdays/Retention**

No articles submitted to Marilyn at time of agenda. No research given at this time. Please forward research if people want to pursue. Marilyn will share her research if there is an interest. (This will not be a recurring agenda item).

### **School Readiness Action Plan**

Family and Teaching Survey Action Plan (see attached)

There was a suggestion to have a parent meeting to go over assessments before report cards come out.

### **Suggested Committees: (Volunteers/Sign Ups Needed)**

- Family Literacy Night – Cari Digou, PreK Teacher from GHS, Ask Cheri from Library (if cost involved we can bring to council – Heather will reach out to Cheri), Parent if possible
- Healthy Snacks
- Community Resources Brochure (Early Childhood) – Talk to Becky, Parent and GHS PreK Teacher

### **Miscellaneous**

NAEYC – received thank you note from Cari Digou (KinderRHAMA). She shared that caliber of presenters were wonderful, informative, helpful, encouraging, optimistic. Cari loved that they have a guide. KinderRHAMA is interested in accreditation. There were webinars, sensory videos, guidance with triggers regarding behavioral challenges. Also, information was provided on early childhood social skills and development.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Gilead Hill School