



DISTRICT 196  
**COMMUNITY EDUCATION**  
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**Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council Minutes**  
**December 21, 2021**

**Minutes**

**Members present:** Heather Blair (Co-Chair), Jennifer Bordonaro, Katie Bothun, Melissa Dunlay, Meredith Eilertson Azeem, Sam Gaylord, Ashley Holien, Katie Rudolph, Caitlin Sipe, Matthew Winter (Co-Chair)

**ISD 196 Staff present:** Jenna Ruble, Kristi Hanson and Dacia Liszka

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Matthew Winter called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Introductions were made.

**Approval of November 16, 2021 minutes**

Chairperson Matthew Winter called for motion to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2021 meeting. Katie Bothun made a motion to approve the minutes, Sam Gaylord seconded and full council approved.

**ECFS Program Updates**

**ECFS** – Jenna Ruble shared that there have been two Teaching Assistants resign and one Parent Educator who is currently out on a leave so far this school year. Individuals to fill these spots have been identified and will be with our Connections Preschool family the through Winter trimester.

There continues to be a great need for substitutes. On any given day there are currently 3-13 subs needed across the Connections Preschool program. We have a team of five who manages the sub situation each day, when a vacancy isn't picked up by a substitute, the team works diligently to fill the gaps with internal resources.

**ECFE** – Kristi Hanson shared that they are keeping number restrictions in place for the Winter classes, with a max of 8 parents in a class. There has been a steady flow of registrations coming in and a good number of registrations thus far. All classes are a go and are moving forward.

**Committee Updates**

**Square 1 Art** – Matt Winter shared that there was a total of 325 people who participated in the Fall fundraiser, with a total of 65 orders. The total raised was \$573.45, which is roughly half of what has been typically raised in the past. The orders were supposed to ship by December 5, 2021, however Matt as received little to no communication around this.

**Parent Night Out** – There is an in-person/Zoom meeting being held on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for interested ECFS Advisory Council members to further discuss the logistics of this fundraiser. Jenna has secured Blackhawk Middle School on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 for this event.

### **Liaison Updates**

**Superintendent Parent Leader meeting** –Jennifer Bordonaro was able to attend the 9:30 a.m. Zoom meeting on November 30, 2021. Jennifer shared superintendent, Mary Kreger informed the group that Chairperson, Jackie Magnuson husband passed away. Mary also spoke about/introduced the new School Board members, in addition to a lot of discussion around the “Desired Daily Experience” survey that has been sent out to students, parents and staff in the district. Additionally, the district is planning for the setup of a COVID testing clinic after Winter break. She also addressed the ongoing staffing issues, especially with Bus Drivers and Food Service. Ashley Holien was unable to make the 5:00 p.m. meeting.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Winter Activity Kit Pick-up Event** – This will be held on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Ashely Holien led this effort last year and did a fantastic job. The committee will target do something very similar this year. Ideas discussed: Valentine’s Day themed, various activities (making a necklace, color sheets, bubbles, treats, stickers, etc.). We will need volunteers to assemble the kits and will ask the ECFS Foundation for support in funding. The event details will be finalized in the January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.

**Family School Book Drive** – This will begin on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and Kristi Hanson and Katie Bothun leading the Family School Book Drive. New and gently used books (ages 3- 5 years old) will be collected in the classroom or via a drop box at the DVLC. The books collected will be distrusted to kids for summer break (around May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022). Kristi Hanson shared that new flyers will need to be created by the Family School committee and that there are 3 bins of new books from previous years that need to be organized/sorted before distribution.

January 4, 2022	Parent Night Out	DVLC	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (childcare)
January 11, 2022	Community Education Advisory Council Regular meeting	Zoom	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
January 11, 2022	Superintendent Parent Leader meeting	Zoom	Group 1 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Group 2 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
February 1, 2022	Family School Book Drive	DVLC	TBD

### **Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

### **Holiday Gathering**

We continued the 25+ year tradition and played one trivia game and one by one everyone opened their wrapped gift from someone on the council.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business Sam Gaylord made a motion to adjourn, Katie Rudolf seconded and full council approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

### **Future Meeting Dates:**

3rd Tuesday, every month - January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17

Respectfully submitted, Dacia Liszka