



aces Early Head Start

September 24, 2025
Early Head Start
Policy Council Meeting
300 Washington St./Zoom
10:00 am-11:30 am
AGENDA/MINUTES

10:00 am Policy Council Open Meeting All Welcome

Time	Attendance	Heather Granja (Program Director), Melissa Kish (Family Development Supervisor/Mental Health Professional), Brendan Geraghty (Community Representative), Larissa Gangloff (Parent), Taneone Hurlburt (Secretary), Jennifer Johnson (Parent), Cameron English (Parent)-Zoom
10:00am-10:05am	Call to order	Larissa called meeting to order
10:05am-10:10am	Review Agenda (Add/Remove item to agenda at this time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Readiness Report at October meeting • ERSEA Training occurred at this PC meeting.
10:10am-10:15am	Approve Minutes (Vote Needed)	Minutes reviewed <i>*Typo-change of day-parent sharing Policy Council</i> <i>Larisa motion to approve, Brendan second, all in favor</i>
10:15am-10:30am	Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Services Update • Fiscal Report Update • State, Regional, and National Updates 	State, Regional, and National <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on Nutrition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased funding from Head Start Regional level ○ Awarded to improve nutrition • Immigration Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lawsuit in approval phase, not allowed to document immigrant status- Nationwide hold • FY26 No budget- Possible Flat funded • Continuing Resolution will be ending on Sept. 30. A new one will need to be signed if we risk Government Shutdown; this will not affect our program as we have funding till the end of December. • PMS (Government Banking) system was shut down in January. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concern this may happen again. • New document sent out- Vision, Mission, Value, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ *Strengthening Americas Families



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Very hard to read ○ Heather read parts of documents ○ Heather attended Government meeting yesterday. No guidance-language could lead to a possible lawsuit. ○ Present without it affecting our families. ○ Legal training on Enrollment- 3 days ● Focus Area 1 year- government to come to learn about program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No guidance or release of information. ○ “All documents currently at the OHS need to go through elected official before being released” ○ Some programs are receiving their 45 days letter. ○ Lawsuits are possibilities-due to no guidance ○ Losing funds for programs not meeting OHS Enrollment - money refund for some programs causing them to close programs. <p>Program Service Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Former family – internship at EHS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Current employee at Middlesex Health ○ Will attend home visits with home visitors, but it will be thought-out on which home visits they attend. ○ All staff, intern, volunteer- DCF background check ○ PC members approve ● Melissa- another job at hospital to educate clinician. Will be near the home visitors for support. Long transition. <p>Fiscal Report shared</p>
<p>10:30am-11:00am</p>	<p>Parent Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Policy Council Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PC Members Update- Governance Training ○ Review By-Laws ○ Share PC Schedule ● Parent Committee Alliance Updates 	<p>Financial Literacy flyer shared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With Liberty Bank ● Session to follow socialization ● First event is Nov. 18 <p>Fatherhood Engagement flyer shared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With Myke Halpin- runs father engagement through DCF ● First meeting is the initial meeting then more days will be planned. Children are welcome. ● Any strong male role model <p>Know Your Rights</p>



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- Caritas Immigration Legal Services is offering free legal rights Oct. 9 5:30-7:30 through Zoom
- 2 hours due to Spanish translation
- Let Heather know if someone might benefit so we can share information.

Policy Council Training

- Power Point shared
 - Organization chart
 - PC Volunteering is considered In-kind
 - Review staff roles
 - What is PC?
 - Collaboration of parents, community partner
 - Revote in members annually
 - Bylaw review annually
 - Duties & Responsibilities
 - Approval, decision making
 - Aged & Program Option
 - Prove child is under 3
 - Eligibility
 - Family size
 - Verify Income
 - Gross income-before taxes
 - Excessive Housing Adjustment- certain % into housing including rent/mortgage, heating, utilities, etc.
 - Categorical Eligibility- don't have to look at income.
 - Homeless (McKinney-Vento)
 - Other categories
 - Foster Care Placement
 - SSI
 - TANF
 - SNAP
 - Selection Criteria- recently updated
 - Greater need will get into program before someone with lesser need

By-Laws shared



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't need to vote now. • Review and give any feedback at later meeting. • Record meetings? <p>Health Mental Health Advisory Committee on Nov. 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best time? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12-2 or 1-3- what will be a good time? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parent agree 12-2 is a better time. • Hybrid possible for families to join since there's no school that day • Diabetic Awareness Month • Childcare/Transportation will be provided
11:00am-11:10am	ERSEA Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrollment/Attendance Update • Recruitment & Community Outreach Effort 	ERSEA report shared <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Referrals • 3 Over income, 3 Income Eligible • 2 Intake Completed • 9 Children w/IFSP • 59 Participants • On 2-week vacation then PD week so only 1 week to completed intake • No enrollment concerns • 5 Determined Eligible • 5 Expected Families • 1 Accepted Family • 5 Families Exited
11:10am-11:20am	Spring School Readiness & Education Manager Report	Report at next month meeting
B11:20am-11:30am	Public Comment	RVT more bus stops are popping up. Middletown be complete by winter
11:30am	Adjourn	Brenden Adjourn

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://aces-org.zoom.us/j/87294142037?pwd=PzAWNPOgX6tFXoJoEUSMBdczJsSWHb.1>

Meeting ID: 872 9414 2037

Passcode: 256473