

REPORT OF THE BOARD'S DELEGATE TO THE MPS HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL

May 28, 2020

Submitted by Director Erika Siemsen

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager, called the meeting to order at 10:27 a.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2020. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting was held remotely.

Members Present:	Shequitta Clark, Franklin; Eunice Heredia-Colon, Lincoln; Trevonna Jones, Metcalfe; and Latrisha Grayson, Obama
Community Representatives:	Christina Esparza
Policy Council Advisors:	Albert Robinson, Jr.
School Board Representative:	Director Erika Siemsen
Staff:	Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager; Clarissa Ramos, Head Start Supervisor; Nikki Cherek, Enrollment Assistant; Natalie Philippe, Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator; Raquel de la Cruz Gutiérrez, Julie Schlipmann, and Erin Hermann, Education Coordinators; and Dr. Kerrie McCullough, ERSEA/FPA Coordinator.
Interpreters:	Alberto Aguilar, Spanish interpreter; and Jasmine Min, Karen interpreter

SCHOOL BOARD'S REPORT

School board director Siemsen indicated that the School Board is currently engaging in budget discussions. If parents have anything urgent for the Board to consider in relation to the budget, please email the Office of Board Governance at governance@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

NEW BUSINESS

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FUNDING APPLICATION

Raquel de la Cruz Gutiérrez, Education Coordinator, and Dr. Kerrie McCullough, ERSEA/FPA Coordinator, shared information regarding the Quality Improvement Funding Application. The three main requests in this application are: 1) to increase the number of Family Partnership Associates (FPAs), 2) extra hours for Head Start staff, and 3) the use of consultants for improving trauma-informed practices and social-emotional learning.

Albert Robbins, Policy Council Advisor, asked for an example of what trauma-informed care looks like. Raquel de la Cruz Gutiérrez, Education Coordinator, responded with an explanation of trauma-informed care and the training needed in MPS Head Start classrooms to deal with situations such as violence, eviction, etc. Erin Hermann, Education Coordinator, gave a few examples of interventions such as light covers, fidgets, and calming areas. She indicated that each child and situation are unique with different needs.

Eunice Heredia, Lincoln Avenue, motioned to approve the funding application. Latrisha Grayson, Obama, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS (COLA) FUNDING APPLICATION

Julie Schlipmann, Education Coordinator, and Natalie Philippe, Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator, shared information regarding the COLA Funding Application. As Head Start staff has received cost-of-living raises in excess of 2%, the funding will be used to cover increased operating costs at Grant Gordon Learning Center. No questions were asked.

Eunice Heredia, Lincoln Avenue, motioned to approve the funding application. Latrisha Grayson, Obama, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CARES (CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY) FUNDING APPLICATION

Clarissa Ramos, Head Start Supervisor, shared information regarding the CARES Application. This is a one-time funding application to provide face-to-face learning for K4 students and K3 students with special needs to make up for missed classroom time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No questions were asked.

Eunice Heredia, Lincoln Avenue, motioned to approve the funding application. Latrisha Grayson, Obama, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SIMPLIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATING HEAD START GRANTS APPLICATION

Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager, and Erin Hermann, Education Coordinator, shared information regarding the Simplification for Consolidating Head Start Grants Application. Albert Robbins, Policy Council Advisor, asked if the consolidation would be completed by the federal government. Erin Hermann, education coordinator, responded, that yes, both grants are federally funded and would be consolidated at the federal level if approved.

Eunice Heredia, Lincoln Avenue, motioned to approve the funding application. Latrisha Grayson, Obama, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager, thanked everyone for participating and thanked the Head Start team for their hard work.
- Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager, announced that the MPS Head Start Program would continue to work with this virtual format in the future to allow for more participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment announced at 12:07 pm by Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager.

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