

# Milford School Readiness Council

## Business Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2021 - 5:30 PM via Zoom

### PRESENT

Lesley Darling, Co-Chair  
Sheri Flanagan, Co-Chair  
Joan Campbell  
Ann Mundy  
Liz Gaffney  
Nicole Flanagan  
Tammy Satterlee  
Kathy Aspinwal  
Amy Fedigan  
Lindsay Doyle  
Andrea Giannattasio

### ABSENT

Gary Johnson  
Christine Kennedy  
Amy Donegan  
Suzanne Thomas  
Carole Swift

### Business Items

- **Call to Order** at 5:40
- **Roll Call:** 11 present, 6 absent
- **Acceptance of Minutes:** Sheri Flanagan made a motion to accept the June 2021 Meeting Minutes. Andrea Giannattasio seconded the motion.
  - A correction was made to the minutes to reflect that Tammi Satterlee will not be supporting Liz in the NAEYC process.
- **Program Director Update/Liz Gaffney**
  - Liz reported only five openings are available at Pumpkin Delight for the 2021-22 academic year; all other seats are filled.
- **Liaison Update/Carole Swift, read by Leslie:**

Council Meetings Dates are set for the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:30 PM.

OEC Care 4 Kids funding: grant enrollment requirements have been met for this upcoming year. So we have many families falling below the state median income. In the past, families who fall in the income bracket of 50% of the state median income and below would likely be eligible for Care 4 Kids funding. This funding pays for a portion of family fees for qualifying families who are enrolled in our program. Recently, there has been an expansion to include families who fall in the 60% of SMI and below for any application received July 1 or later. The expansion also includes supplemental funding for parents in university/college, which was added August 2nd. So applications must have been received on or after that date for that eligibility. Liz has been working hard to get families who can benefit from this program to apply for Care 4 Kids. In addition, having families who receive the benefits of Care 4 Kids funding puts our program in an eligibility position for other kinds of OEC support and funding. We have not had a child in our program taking advantage of Care 4 Kids in the last three years, according to 211. We have had no families at Live Oaks School or Pumpkin Delight ever take advantage of this

(because we have no assigned DCEX license exempt number.) Partnering with Care 4 Kids is a major focus of our work. Does Council have any recommendations or avenues for outreach to families?

(There is a 2 page fact sheet eligibility policy being sent out soon from OEC. We can share that with families. 211 of United Way has all updates on the expansion, and is a good avenue for us and parents to access/learn about Care 4 Kids. Liz goes over Care 4 Kids with each family during enrollment. We can post flyers in RtL classrooms, in FRC newsletters, and classroom newsletters, and on the BOE website. Other ideas/actions?)

- On August 9th the Supplemental Administrative Funding approval was received. Thank you to Council for their electronic support to submit this.
- Grant Budget application was submitted and approved. So funding is coming in to support program operations.
- Ready Set Rebuild: We were sent an invitation from OEC to apply for program stabilization funding connected directly to Care 4 Kids. This invitation was received because Care 4 Kids received a parent application from our program. Liz is getting together some required documentation to update our profile and complete our application. The application is due by September 30th, is not first come first served, instead there is funding set aside. This is an example of how it benefits our program, our families and our students if we partner with Care 4 Kids to support families as best we can.

At this point, I am not sure how much funding will result from this invitation. Will update at the next Council Meeting.

- **New Business** None
- **Meeting Adjournment:** Sheri Flanagan made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 Kathy Aspinwall seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by: Liz Gaffney