

**Bristol School Readiness Council
Regular Meeting
September 6, 2023**

- The regular meeting of the School Readiness Council was held on September 6, 2023 at the Bristol Board of Education (and on Zoom Meeting Platform) and called to order by Chairperson Redzic at 12:20 PM.

Present: Maureen Eaton, Michelle Fangiullo, Siri Gilmore, Sarah Holmes, Donna Koser, Susan Adeife Lee, Amber Lipscomb, Alyssa McGhee, Wendy McGrath, Brenda Moore, Valerie Pelletier, Azra Redzic, Jillian Romann, Jennifer St. John

Absent: Jennifer Bilbraut, Cecilia Garay, Erin Hamilton, Andrew Howe, Valerie Toner

Also Present: Maegan Adams, Dina Schaffrick, Rachael Witkewicz

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Appointment**
 - ***Motion by School Readiness Council member Donna Koser and seconded by Jennifer St. John, it was a unanimous vote to approve the appointment of Jillian Romann to the School Readiness Council.***
- **Elect Chairpersons**
 - ***Motion by School Readiness Council member Donna Koser and seconded by Amber Lipscomb, it was a unanimous vote to approve the election of chairpersons Maureen Eaton and Jillian Romann.***
- **Approval of School Readiness Council Meeting Minutes held June 7, 2023:**
 - ***Motion by School Readiness Council member Jillian Romann and seconded by Wendy McGrath, it was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the School Readiness Council Minutes held June 7, 2023.***
- **Committee Updates**
 - Program Quality – Maureen Eaton
 - o Discussed staff and enrollment updates
 - o Discussed BristolWorks
 - o Discussed Office of Early Childhood updates
 - Blue Ribbon Panel for Early Childhood sharing draft plan next week for feedback
 - o Grants winding their way through City Hall for approvals
 - o Donna moved her office into Edgewood Pre-Kindergarten Academy
 - o Next meeting is September 13 at 9:30 at the Edgewood Pre-K Academy
 - Health Committee – Erin Hamilton
 - o No report
 - o Next meeting is September 12 at 3:00 on Zoom
 - Governance – Sarah Holmes
 - o No report

- Community Outreach – Donna Koser and Jennifer St. John
 - o Family Fun Day was successful, and planning is underway for next year's event to be held June 29, 2023
 - o Summer activities included Music in the Park, Farmers Market and Mayor's Pencil Hunt where committee distributed Reading Buddies
 - o Also attended FRC summer play group
 - o September 16 at 4:00 is an event at Page Park with local author reading and holding a book signing, and committee will host story time scavenger hunt with kids
 - o Next Outreach meeting is TBD
- Infant and Toddler – Maegan Adams
 - o Planning a children's winter clothing swap (B-5) on December 2, 2023 possibly at the Senior Center - still figuring out logistics
 - o Next meeting is September 19 at 1:30 on Zoom
- Transition to Kindergarten – Donna Osuch
 - o Fire Truck Raffle was pulled June 14 by Chiefs Gould and Hart, and we ended up with 3 winners:
 - Isaiah Fuentes went to South Side on a Fire Truck
 - Eliana Lora went to Stafford in a Police Car
 - August Pearson went to Hubbell on a Fire Truck
 - o As of June 1, 390 children were registered for Kindergarten, and as of September 6, 516 children are attending Kindergarten, for 75.6% registered "on time"
 - o Next meeting is September 18 at 3:45 on Zoom
- **School Readiness Liaison Report – Donna Osuch**
 - Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and other Updates
 - o We have not heard about approval for new ARPA grants for the community providers, which were submitted March 30, 2023, for one-time COVID-related infrastructure grants
 - o Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel for Early Childhood is sharing plan with the community next week; they present to the Governor by end of 2023
 - o OEC updated many of their General Policies, so we need to convene the Governance Committee to update our bylaws and policies
 - o Bristol reimbursed OEC for \$2,250 overdrawn School Readiness funds and \$9,000 Infant Toddler funds
 - Local Updates
 - o ***Motion by School Readiness Council member Sarah Holmes and seconded by Michelle Fangiullo, it was a unanimous vote to approve the Space Change Request from Bristol Child Development Center from 8 School Day/School Year Slots to 5 Full Day/Full Year Slots, effective August 28, 2023.***
 - o Payments for monthly reimbursement have been made, but still paying first quarter COLAs - will be caught up by end of this week
 - o Tunxis organized regional professional development on trauma informed practice with Dr. Peg Oliveira on August 21, 2023. Additional sessions from 5:30-7:30 include dinner and books:
 - 9/20 - Redefining Challenging Behavior
 - 10/11 - How to Build Secure Learning Environments

- 12/11 - Social Emotional Learning
 - Edgewood Pre-Kindergarten Academy held Open House and Ribbon Cutting August 24th
- **Quality Enhancement Report:**
 - Funds have begun to be drawn down
- **Monitoring Visits Report**
 - Programs are working hard to maintain qualified staff
 - In August,
 - Bristol Board of Education (BOE) starts in September and has 149 part day/part year spaces.
 - Bristol Child Development Center (BCDC) had 114/124 full day/full year spaces filled and 46/56 CDC infant/toddler spaces filled.
 - Imagine Nation, A Museum Early Learning Center (INMELC) had 119/119 full day/full year Pre-K spaces and 8/8 infant/toddler spaces filled.
- **Resignations:**
 - Tatiana Garcia
 - Sarah Guerette
 - Kristen Peck
 - Azra Redzic
- **Old Business:** none
- **New Business:** none
- **Community Sharing:**
 - Azra thanked the School Readiness Council and praised the opening of the Edgewood Pre-K Academy
 - Maureen thanked the Council for electing her to serve as co-chair
 - Sarah shared that the FRC Play and Learn Groups will begin meeting at the end of September
 - Siri suggested a Learn to Sew class to bring the community together for a fashion show - she will join the Outreach Committee
- **Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:02 PM.**

Next regular meeting date: October 4, 2023 in person at the BOE Auditorium

Respectfully Submitted,
 Donna Osuch
 School Readiness Liaison