



*City of Bristol
School Readiness*

*INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS
MEETING*

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*ID: 92046208066
passcode: 355413*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The regular Bristol School Readiness Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, in Room 36 at the Board of Education, 129 Church Street, Bristol, CT.

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions
2. Consolidation of the Bristol Early Childhood Alliance and School Readiness Council
 - a. Mission Statement Development
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting - April 2, 2025
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Program Quality
 - b. Health Services
 - c. Governance
 - d. Community Outreach
 - e. Infant and Toddler
 - f. Transition to Kindergarten
5. City School Readiness and Child Day Care Liaison Report
 - a. Office of Early Childhood Updates

b. Local Updates

6. Quality Enhancement Report
7. Monitoring Report
8. Resignations
9. Appointments
10. New Business
11. Old Business
12. Community Sharing
13. Adjournment
14. Next meeting date June 4, 2024, in Room 36 at BOE

PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRPERSON, Jillian Romann

**Bristol School Readiness Council
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2025**

The regular meeting of the School Readiness Council was held on April 2, 2025 on the Zoom Meeting Platform and called to order by Jillian Romann at 11:50 AM.

A recording of this meeting is at:

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/gylDNVAOM9puvEt8MKP5YDbIrgB0bcKXW3wFflw6DRPF-npOq7BdUYuPRfeM-eNh.CUoiuxmJngkW7VKb>

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Present: Maegan Adams, Cecilia Garay, Yesenia Fuentes, Michelle Herens, Donna Koser, Alyssa McGhee, Wendy McGrath, Liz McGuire, Brenda Moore, Jillian Romann, Sarah Roy, Courtney Sugarman, Valerie Toner

Absent: Matt Baronowski, Susan Adeife Lee, Amber Lipscomb, Valerie Pelletier, Erick Rosengren, Dina Schaffrick, Jennifer St. John

Also Present: Renee Dailey, Stephanie Daniele, Sarah Ethier, Michelle Fangiullo, Dreau Foster, Sandra Godin, Kate Kerchaert, Manny Martinez, Kara Singleton

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- **Consolidation of the Bristol Early Childhood Alliance and School Readiness Council:**

- Breakout groups to start strategic planning – vision, goals and strategies: As part of the consolidation of the School Readiness Council and the Bristol Early Childhood Alliance process, attendees were asked to discuss the following questions in break out groups:
 - What key information would be most useful in determining our Bristol Early Childhood Collaborative (BECC) strategies?
 - In anticipation of Strategic Planning and the hope to meet for a larger chunk of time this May and June, what would be your preference:
 - First Wednesday of the month - 10:00-1:00
 - First Wednesday of the month - 11:00 -2:00
 - A different option (date/time)
 - Discuss BECC meeting schedule for the Bristol Early Childhood Collaborative beginning July 1, 2025
 - Would you be available on the first Wednesday of the month?
 - a. 11:00 a.m. -12:00 noon
 - b. 12:00 noon -1:00 p.m.
 - c. 4:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

[Breakout Group 1](#)

[Breakout Group 2](#)

[Breakout Group 3](#)

[Breakout Group 4](#)

- **Approval of School Readiness Council Meeting Minutes held March 5, 2025:**
 - ***Motion by School Readiness Council member Donna Koser and seconded by Brenda Moore, it was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the regular School Readiness Council Minutes held March 5, 2025.***
- **Committee Updates**
 - Program Quality – Renee Dailey
 - Discussed staffing and enrollment updates
 - Discussed impact of temporary closing of Edgewood
 - Classrooms are full with 2 teachers using the same space
 - BOE starting registration for next year and offering PK4 school day option (9:05-3:35) and PK3 part day option
 - BOE surveying families and will share families' decisions with programs who share children
 - OEC Updates:
 - OEC did a presentation about updated Licensing Regulations
 - RFA update:
 - First round starting contracting process
 - Second round announced 3/5 and due 3/28
 - Time to register for Kindergarten. Donna asked about the missing map of home schools on BOE's website, and found out you have to look under bus routes
 - Transition Summary Sheets due April 11
 - Donna shared legislative update
 - Next meeting is April 9 at 10:00 at Bristol Child Development Center and on Zoom
 - Health Committee – Donna Osuch
 - Discussed data collection, and specifically Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
 - Discussed behavioral health, including the Bristol Police Dept. hired an officer to respond to 211 calls from the schools and mental health calls from the community
 - A google doc for Wellness Wednesday was shared for committee to add items
 - The Health Committee will be discussing goals using the following google doc: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L0JELN9PGEfYPoCvnP8u9qrmsseOCCguljUbXc7BqIM/edit?usp=sharing>
 - Next meeting is April 8 at 2:00 on Zoom
 - Governance – Sarah Holmes
 - No report
 - Community Outreach – Donna Koser and Jennifer St. John
 - The Special Education Hub will meet on May 5th. All are welcome. Please let Donna K. know if you would like the Zoom invite.
 - Family Fun Day is scheduled for June 21st. Programs are encouraged to send in their vendor form as soon as possible. The committee is also looking for sponsors.
 - Next meeting is rescheduled to April 10 at 1:00 on Zoom

- **Infant and Toddler – Maegan Adams and Michelle Herens**
 - Discussed rebranding and work with facilitator
 - Guest from the REACH Program, which is a program for people living in recovery run by people with lived experiences
 - Discussed annual events: Maternal Mental Health Walk, Community Baby Shower (focus on supporting BBHD's shower instead), and Breastfeeding event with WIC
 - The Infant & Toddler Committee will be discussing goals using the google doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ARuVlppsF5-Amb75Nt4WbWgn4NpDWoTukg1WnSX_xec/edit?usp=sharing
 - Next meeting is April 15 at 1:30 on Zoom
- **Transition to Kindergarten – Courtney Sugarman**
 - Discussion about transition to kindergarten activities for March and April, including Transition Meetings for students with IEPs, "time to register" media blitz, and inviting kindergarten teachers to Transition Team meetings
 - Kindergarten registration opened February 1, and 191 children registered by 4/1
 - Discussion about the Kindergarten waiver process – 56 waivers by 4/2 with 95 total waiver requests last year
 - 433 families registered in Ready4K
 - Spring Dine & Discuss will be April 29, 2025, from 6:00-7:00 on Zoom
 - The Transition to K Committee will be discussing goals using the google doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_sCX1toYilbpkleug_6i0QG0OfqFwZ7E8E335AQNWUc/edit?usp=sharing
 - Next meeting is April 21 at 3:45 on Zoom
- **School Readiness Liaison Report – Donna Osuch**
 - **Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and other Updates**
 - OEC sent emails to current providers with their contract information (site level slots by age and type) – if they receive additional slots through the competitive RFA, OEC will adjust their contracts
 - OEC planning milestones for Local Governance Partners (LGPs) at 1 and 6 months and 1 year, including family engagement, local needs assessment/community planning, and quality assurance/program improvement
 - OEC looking at July 1 as a reset and fresh start, and they're updating and writing General Policies for the Intermediary, LGPs and providers
 - Competitive second round of RFA was open from March 5-28
 - There are 3 large early childhood bills from the Governor and Leadership from the Senate and House – Donna shared a side-by-side comparison
 - **Local Updates**
 - Students from Edgewood Pre-Kindergarten Academy are being temporarily housed at the Senior Center with a couple of classrooms at West Bristol School
 - Received \$410 from Bill and Janet Brownstein Charitable Donor Advised Fund at Main Street Community Foundation for Little Read books (*The Way I Feel* by Janan Cain)
 - Dine & Discuss is April 29th on Zoom from 6:00-7:00
 - Reminder that it's time to register for Kindergarten, and that the Citywide orientation is May 21st from 5:30-6:30

- **Quality Enhancement Report:**
 - The Library had several programs during March, including a puppet show and fairy house program
- **Monitoring Visits Report**
 - In March,
 - Edgewood Pre-Kindergarten Academy (EPKA) filled 155/164 (95%) part day/part year spaces
 - Bristol Child Development Center (BCDC) had 129/129 (100%) full day/full year spaces filled and 56/56 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:** none
- **Appointments:** none
- **Old Business:** none
- **New Business:** none
- **Community Sharing:**
 - Bristol Health is opening its remodeled OR and Birthing Center soon
 - FRC Summer Play and Learn groups will start June 26 and rotate among its 3 centers
 - Family Fun Day is June 21, 2025, and committee is looking for sponsorships and vendors
- **Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:07 PM.**

Next regular meeting date: May 7, 2025 at BOE Room 36 and on Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Osuch
School Readiness Liaison

Health Committee Notes April 8, 2025

The regular meeting of the Health Committee was held on April 8, 2025, on Zoom Meeting Platform and called to order by Leo Suazo.

Present: Sherry and Tad Bartles, Stephanie Daniele, Donna Koser, Barbara Lozier, Donna Osuch, Jennifer St. John and Leo Suazo

Welcome and introductions:

School Readiness/BECA strategic planning:

- Bristol will receive a transition grant to pay for facilitation to support bringing together BECA and School Readiness, a new logo and time for Donna K to work with the statewide network. The google doc in the next bullet was shared again for members to update the sections about which they have knowledge.
- **The Health Committee will discuss goals using the following google doc:**
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L0JELN9PGEfYPoCvnP8u9qrmsseOCCguljUbXc7BqIM/edit?usp=sharing>

New Priorities/Ideas:

- **Behavioral Health –**
 - Explore options regarding ACEs for a future strategy
 - Stephanie is working on a community project on bullying awareness. She will promote awareness with orange ribbons at the schools during October.
- **Zoom series for parents –**
 - Leo recorded gardening and healthy eating session and will share her video
- **Dental Screening for preschool children update –**
 - BBHD rescheduled their presentation to April 24 at BECC and WBS
 - Mission of Mercy volunteer registration is open – event is June 20-21 at New Britain HS
- **Stafford Health Fair is May 1, from 5:30-7:30 –** Infant Toddler Committee will have a table

Updates about ongoing ideas:

- **Wellness Wednesday –** This project to promote health information on social media and the website continues, and Donna Koser is requesting content from all partners. She shared a link for committee members to add items: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HUbOc-IDFBh74UfiGyEQ1cHpUcbBlyWVOYXSZQJ10RY/edit?gid=0#gid=0>
- **Seed Project –** Leo is organizing the seed program at schools with FRCs and at community preschools through Road to Reading program; we could offer packets we don't expect to use to the library for their seed catalog
- **Little Read –** Donna O delivered books to schools and community programs

Other:

Next meeting is May 13, 2025 at 2:00

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Osuch

Infant & Toddler Committee

Zoom Meeting Notes

April 15, 2025, from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

In attendance: Maegan Adams, Michelle Herens, Wendy McGrath, Donna Osuch, Kaitlyn Rondeau

Members present discussed the following items.

Updates on LGP, rebranding and reconfiguration of committees: The transition grant was approved, and a small committee interviewed three potential consultants. Funding will allow for a Facilitator to help with the merging of BECA/SR, a logo designer and staff time to help with the LGP Handbook.

Equity and Inclusion: BECA has asked that all committees think about equity and inclusion.

Events

- May - Maternal Mental Health Month – Donna K. reached out to Tracy to see if Wheeler was interested in a Walk & Talk event at the park, but we also learned that Stafford School is hosting a Health Fair May 1st from 5:30-7:00. We will participate in the Health Fair with flyers from Bristol Health and hopefully WIC. Maegan will bring a table after 5:00, and the rest of us will meet with materials. Some can't stay, but Maegan can. Donna O will ask Barbara Lozier if there's a flyer we can share.
- August - Breastfeeding Awareness on August 2nd – Kaitlyn will take the lead. Donna K. co-created the flyer to get the word out.

Opportunities for Infants and Toddlers: no updates.

Next Steps / Updates:

- WIC is seeing requests for increased benefits beyond WIC. They're suggesting SNAP and food and diaper banks. Donna reshared Jill Mahoney's email for diapers: jill.mahoney@naugatuck.k12.ct.us
- Many mothers giving birth who test positive for marijuana say they're not using. The hospital offers them a lock box provided by Wheeler Clinic.
- Bristol Health's new OR was supposed to open tomorrow, but it's on a temporary hold and should be ready to open soon.
- Family Fun Day is June 21st at BAIMS, and members were encouraged to get back to Maegan about attendance by their organizations.

Next Meeting: *May 20, at 1:30 p.m. on ZOOM*

Transition to Kindergarten Committee

April 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Transition to Kindergarten Committee was held April 21, 2025 on Zoom Meeting Platform and called to order by Courtney Sugarman at 3:50 PM.

Welcome and Introductions:

Attendees: Sarah Ethier, Donna Koser, Donna Osuch, Misty Palaia, Dina Schaffrick, Courtney Sugarman, Gail Zimmerman, Erin Zukowski

School Readiness/BECA Strategic Planning

- Bristol received a grant to support strategic planning and new logo development

Transition to Kindergarten Activities

- April and May activities:
 - Time to register for Kindergarten! As of April 1, 191 in Central Registration with 281 health forms submitted to BBHD, and as of 4/21, 301 health forms submitted
 - Hold Transition Meetings for students with IEPs ongoing through spring
 - “Time to Register” media blitz
 - Educate PK4 parents on social media and website using videos made in 2023
 - Transition Summary Sheets are due April 11th
 - Invite kindergarten teachers to visit SPED students – due to constraints at the Senior Center, visits will be scheduled on a case-by-case basis
 - Planning to schedule fall visits in Kindergarten where appropriate
 - Invite kindergarten teachers to Transition Team meetings
 - Little Read
 - Parent Orientation and Survey
 - Orientation is May 21 at 5:30 at every school
 - Let Donna know if you want edits to survey (attached) by 4/28
 - Survey will be paper only in English and Spanish – ask for time in slide show to complete surveys, and have volunteers collect at each school
- Kindergarten age change – parents can request waivers similar to last year if they want their child to start kindergarten early; as of April 2nd, there were 56 requests (95 total last year)

Ready 4K

- We have 428 families enrolled

Dine & Discuss

- A discussion with a panel of experts to explore the rising number of young children with identified special needs on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, from 6:00-7:00 PM on Zoom
- Hold panel with 3 experts: 1) School Psychologist on instructional control (TBD), 2) Speech and Language Pathologist (Nicole Redman and/or Becca Baronowski), and 3) Occupational Therapist (Maura Hopkins); then Q&A
- After panel, hold breakout groups for teachers to share experiences and knowledge
- Invite teachers and family child care providers from community
- Update invitation to include breakout requests

- Registration link: <https://forms.gle/aC3vzLmjKK1Hw77N6> and flyer attached

Other

- June 16th meeting will be moved to 1:45

Next Meeting May 19, 2025 at 3:45 on Zoom