

**Bristol School Readiness Council
Regular Meeting
June 4, 2025**

The regular meeting of the School Readiness Council was held on June 4, 2025 in Room 36 at the Bristol Board of Education and on the Zoom Meeting Platform, and called to order by Jillian Romann at 12:19.

Present: Maegan Adams, Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano, Cecilia Garay, Michelle Herens, Donna Koser, Susan Adeife Lee, Amber Lipscomb, Alyssa McGhee, Wendy McGrath, Brenda Moore, Jillian Romann, Erick Rosengren, Sarah Roy, Dina Schaffrick, Valerie Toner

Absent: Yesenia Fuentes, Liz McGuire, Valerie Pelletier, Jennifer St. John, Courtney Sugarman

Also Present: Stephanie Daniele, Michelle Fangiullo, Sandra Godin, Susan Sadecki, Kara Singleton, Gail Zimmerman

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Consolidation of the Bristol Early Childhood Alliance and School Readiness Council:**
 - School Readiness Council and Bristol Early Childhood Alliance members participated in a retreat before the meeting, from 9:00-12:00. Work was done around vision, values and future planning. We also reviewed the survey data, which prompted us with more questions.
 - **Approval of application for Stabilization Grant – *Motion by School Readiness Council member Maegan Adams and seconded by Michelle Herens, it was a unanimous vote to approve the School Readiness Council application for a Stabilization Grant to CT Network of Children and Youth for up to \$60,000.***
 - **Approval for City of Bristol to contract with Shine Early Learning – *Motion by School Readiness Council member Sarah Holmes and seconded by Valerie Toner, it was a unanimous vote to approve that the City of Bristol enter into a contract with Shine Early Learning to be the Local Governance Partner.***
- **Approval of School Readiness Council Meeting Minutes held May 7, 2025:**
 - ***Motion by School Readiness Council member Amber Lipscomb and seconded by Donna Koser, it was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the regular School Readiness Council Minutes held May 7, 2025.***
- **Committee Updates – no reports due to retreat**
- **School Readiness Liaison Report – Donna Osuch**
 - Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and other Updates
 - The legislature finishes its session tonight at midnight, so we expect to know more about the final budget and early childhood bills soon.
 - SB1 passed both Houses and sets up an early childhood endowment that allows annual deposit up to \$300 million of unappropriated surplus. OEC can spend up to 12% in the first 2 years and then up to 10% in FY28 and beyond.
 - HB5003 also passed both Houses and sets up a parent portal and studies health care subsidies for programs

- HB6921 passed the House and needs to be approved by the Senate. This is the OEC Technical bill that addresses Designated Qualified Staff Members, licensing for youth camps, and will set the percentage, cap and match for our local council.
 - HB7009 has language to remove the kindergarten waiver
 - Statewide, there will be 429 Early Start CT programs in 83 communities
 - Shine Early Learning, the new statewide intermediary, hasn't signed contract with OEC yet and won't likely reach out to communities until late summer/early fall
 - Local Updates
 - Reminder that if parents fully register their children for Kindergarten by June 18, they'll be entered into a raffle for a ride to the first day of school on a fire truck
 - Citywide Kindergarten orientation was held May 21st and we had volunteers to collect surveys at every school
- **Quality Enhancement Report:** none
- **Monitoring Visits Report**
 - In May,
 - Edgewood Pre-Kindergarten Academy (EPKA) filled 154/164 (94%) part day/part year spaces
 - Bristol Child Development Center (BCDC) had 129/129 (100%) full day/full year spaces filled and 56/56 (100%) CDC infant/toddler spaces filled
 - Imagine Nation, A Museum Early Learning Center (INMELC) had 119/119 (100%) full day/full year Pre-K spaces and 8/8 (100%) infant/toddler spaces filled
- **Resignations:** none
- **Appointments:** none
- **Old Business:** none
- **New Business:** Thanked Sarah Roy and Valerie Toner for their years of service. Sarah is leaving the Family Resource Centers, and Val is retiring. Congratulations to both!
- **Community Sharing:**
 - Family Fun Day is June 21, with a rain date of June 22; so far 38 vendors and food trucks are registered, and we could use more vendors and sponsors
 - Bristol Public Library's Summer Reading flyers are available on the table or online and starts June 16; the summer lunch program will run from June 30 – August 15
 - Family Resource Center's Play and Learn groups will run for 4 weeks starting Thursday, June 26, from 10:00-11:00
- **Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 12:51 PM.**

Next regular meeting date: September 3, 2025 at BOE Room 36 and on Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Osuch
School Readiness Liaison

UNAPPROVED