

## Lane Early Learning Alliance

3171 Gateway Loop  
Springfield, OR 97477  
tel 541.741.6000  
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earlylearningalliance.org



### Lane Early Learning Alliance Governance Consortium

January 12, 2018

3:30-5:30pm

Lane ESD (1200 OR-99, Eugene, OR 97402)

#### NOTES

##### **Present:**

Marian Blankenship, Pacific Source Health Plans  
Noreen J. Dunnells, United Way of Lane County  
Debi Farr, Trillium Community Health Plan  
Todd Hamilton, Creswell School District  
Judy Newman, Early Childhood CARES  
Sue Norton, Lane Community College  
Chris Parra, Bethel School District  
John Radich, Department of Human Services  
George Russell, Community Leader  
Lise Schellman, Pearl Buck Center  
Liz Schneider, Parent Representative  
Tony Scurto, Lane Education Service District

##### **Absent:**

Gustavo Balderas, Eugene 4J School District  
Leslie Finlay, Relief Nursery  
Karen Gaffney, Lane County

Tina Gutierrez-Schmich, Bethel School District  
John Lively, Oregon State Representative  
Darcy Phillips, Cornerstone Community Housing  
Sue Rieke-Smith, Springfield Public Schools  
Annie Soto, Head Start of Lane County  
John Stapleton, PIVOT Architecture

##### **Staff:**

Michelle Sheng-Palmisano, United Way of Lane County  
Bess Day, United Way of Lane County  
Ann Salminen, United Way of Lane County  
Holly Mar-Conte, United Way of Lane County  
Anetra Brown, United Way of Lane County  
Sylvia Barry, United Way of Lane County

##### **Public:**

No members of the public present

#### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM

#### **II. Welcome and Introductions**

Bess Day welcomed the group, everyone introduced themselves and mentioned either a new year resolution or an item off of their bucket list.

#### **III. Public Comment**

No members of the public were present.

#### **IV. Consent Agenda**

December Meeting Minutes  
December Written Report

**Action requested:** Motion to approve, accept or ratify items listed on consent agenda as submitted.

**Motion:** Noreen J. Dunnells motioned to approve the consent agenda.

**Support:** George Russell seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda.

**Ayes:** Marian Blankenship, Debi Farr, Todd Hamilton, Judy Newman, Sue Norton, Chris Parra, John Radich, Lise Schellman, Liz Schneider, Tony Scurto

**Nays:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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### V. 2018 Legislative Priorities Document

Early Learning Hub leaders across the state have been working collaboratively to develop a system wide message for support during this upcoming legislative session. The group has developed a one pager highlighting the 2018 early childhood legislative priorities. Overall the document request to bring programming back to at least the funding levels that they were before the cuts in the previous session. The ask of the group was whether or not they were comfortable endorsing the document in support of the Early Learning Alliance joining this collective voice.

Some suggestions made by the group were:

- Want to know more details about “what I’m buying” with the increases in funding
- Most increases are bringing funding levels back to comparable of 2016/2017 (restoration of funds)
- More details and data behind each data point (maybe an attachment with more details)
- Include policy statements as a package that will provide more information to legislators
- Collaborating with the Children’s Institute on what they are working on
- Adding the legislation for extending the eligibility for development delay eligibility through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Policy bill at this point as the state look the projected implementation in 2020.
- Follow up on Focus Childcare Networks conversation bullets
- Including a shared position statement with early learning and K12 partners mentioning the priority and value of share support across the continuum

*\*Staff will offer the proposed edits at the next hub director meeting and will do an electronic vote for the ELA to support the final version of the Legislative Priorities Document.*

### VI. KITS Funding & Sustainability

Since the Social Innovation Fund federal grant was not renewed, this past fall, staff worked with the school district partners to understand the true costs of the program to understand what it will cost to sustain the program as is. Combined with additional funds raised outside of the SIF grant, as of now, we are close to the meeting the funding needed for Year 3 at the current service level. Staff have also been looking at what could be possible for Year 4 of the program and overall sustainability for the future of the KITS. Bess Day led the group through a facilitated process that answered the following questions:

#### **STEP 1—what outcomes have we achieved (or anticipate) that justify the continuation of the program?**

- School readiness (self-regulation, literacy, social emotional)
- Increase in parent engagement
- Decreased societal costs as kids grow up (jobs, crime, etc.)
- Attendance
- Teacher, TAs, parent skill development
- Health outcomes (physical and mental)
- Long term impact on school career
- Ripple effect on classroom management (for other kids in the classroom)
  - Community sensitivity to this issue (classroom sizes, behaviors, etc.)
- Increase connectedness to school
- Modeling behavior supports

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- Increasing graduation rates
- Using a consistent identifier for KITS participation

### **STEP 2—Given the outcomes, to whom is this program important?**

- Families (parents, grandparents, extended family, etc.)
- Classrooms, teachers, schools
- Community (broader health and wellbeing)
- Industry/ business partners
- Criminal justice system, community police officers
- Health care
- Broader education system (ELD, DOE)
- Funders/Donors
- Social service systems
- Legislature

### **STEP 3—What resources are needed to continue?**

- Adequate staffing (admin staff, teachers, transportation, nutrition services, coordinator, outreach, etc.)
- Toolkit for “how to do program”
- KITS program curriculum
- Marketing and recruitment materials
- Space and transportation for families
- Evaluation and measurement tools and processes
- Training and refreshers for teachers
- Backbone over program support and coordination
- Snacks
- Coaches (trainers)
- Childcare
- Classroom materials
- Parent facilitators
- Translators and interpreters

### **STEP 4—What are possible strategies for securing these resources from the stakeholders?**

- Private donors could fund evaluation
- Partnering with the University of Oregon to get evaluation support
- School district budget development (where are there opportunities to align resources, ex: use of school district federal funds)
- Early Learning Division support
- Reducing the costs of the program (such as training costs)
- What are the expectations or requirements to continue using the program? (centralized training coaches outside of OSLC)
- Pay for Success or social bond opportunities
- Scalability of bringing the program outside of the county
- Leveraging other programs such as KITS, Preschool Promise, and LaneKids
- Billable parenting education curriculums to healthcare insurance
- Sliding scale payments or possibly a scholarship model
- Using municipal fees to support
- Employer paying for KITS as a benefits for their employees

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- Shortening the KITS program time to less than 12 weeks to reduce costs
- Train preschool promise staff to do KITS curriculum during school year
- Bringing more people in to help with fundraising (rotary, lions club, etc.)

*Next Steps: Meet with each school districts to explore what resources are needed to stay at current program levels. We don't anticipate districts having to pay more than the 25% match.*

### VII. RSVP Grant

RSVP, a federally funded program designed to coordinate volunteer projects for retired senior volunteers has been supported by United Way for the last several years. Historically, United Way's RSVP program hosted projects primarily focused on health and wellbeing. The RSVP program is being restructured to focus on education related projects to better align with United Way's new strategic focus on children and families being successful in school and life. As mentioned during the last meeting, staff have been working with partners to think through what programming could be supported by RSVP's new shift in focus. The group identified two major strategies:

- **Expand SMART Program:** RSVP Volunteer will help coordinate and recruit SMART readers in Head Start classrooms and elementary schools (each program needs a volunteer coordinator to match readers)
- **Expand Creswell IRC Program Across the County:** The goal is to expand the IRC model to recruit 200 volunteers in sites across the community. RSVP will also support Creswell's current program and the expansion into Bohemia Elementary in South Lane, plus 2 additional sites yet to be determined.

### VIII. Future Governance Consortium Meetings

Bess will send out a survey monkey asking for feedback on new meeting times, dates, and locations.

- Explore new meeting date and time because it often conflicts with other meetings
- However, Fridays are typically open for most folks
- Starting earlier in the day (possibly at 3pm instead)
- Meeting at a new location (United Way or EC CARES)

### IX. Updates

- Connected Lane County's Winter Celebration is on January 24<sup>th</sup> from 12-2pm at the Ford Alumni Center. Debi Farr will speak on behalf of the Early Learning Alliance, highlighting the value of partnerships between early childhood and the health sector. Also, Tony Scurto will give the keynote speech at the event. Space is limited so please contact Michelle Martin [mmartin@lesd.k12.or.us](mailto:mmartin@lesd.k12.or.us) if you are interested in attending.
- George Russell will be honored as the 2018 Alton F Baker Award for philanthropy recipient at United Way's Community Celebration. Jennifer Jacobson as the Community Partner award. The event is on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8pm at the Eugene Hilton. Keep an eye out for an email invitation soon in the next few weeks.
- Colt Gill was appointed as Deputy Superintendent of the Oregon Department of Education on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> by Governor Kate Brown.

### X. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM

