

POLICY COUNCIL QUORUM

Quorum was met with 13 centers represented by 19 center representatives and alternates. Three Past Parent Representatives were also in attendance for a total of 22 attendees.

POLICY COUNCIL BY-LAWS APPROVED

The Council reviewed and approved the revisions proposed by the By-Laws Committee. Significant changes: Maximum number of years on Policy Council is back to 3 years. Now written in the By-Laws is protocol that Council members cannot be related by blood or marriage to staff, and cannot be employed by the program. Same center, same-funded parent alternates can take the place of the same center, same-funded parent representative when that representative misses a Council meeting and when that representative vacates a Council seat. Parent representatives who will be absent are responsible to request their same center, same-funded parent alternate attend the Council meeting for them. Those alternates and all representatives are required to give valid reasons for missing a meeting within 3 work days.

POLICY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE RULES

The Council members' attendance is vital to Council business. Alternates are encouraged to attend all meetings, and are required to attend in absence of their same center, same-funded representative. The following absences will remove required members from the Council.

- Missing 2 Council meetings in a row without an excused absence removes a member.
- Missing a total of 4 Council meetings - regardless of excused absences on file or which Council meetings are missed – removes a members.

POLICY COUNCIL TRAINING

The program's Fiscal Coordinator, Kim Pearson, gave the Council training on reading and understanding the monthly Financial Reports.

WSA - PARENT AMBASSADORS

Council members can apply to be a WSA Parent Ambassador trained in advocacy by the Washington State Association (WSA) of Head Start and ECEAP. Applications need the signature of the Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning, Matthew Solomon, and are due January 10. Explore the WSA website: <https://www.wsaheadstarteceap.com>.

CPAC

The Council will hear what is going on at the centers when center representatives share the Center Parent Advisory Committee (CPAC) Summaries.

MONTHLY REPORT

Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning, Matthew Solomon, presented the November information. Centers need more staff, so the program increased advertising, and asked current staff and the Office of Head Start for suggestions.

STRATEGIC PLANNING- CRITICAL SOLUTIONS

Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning, Matthew Solomon, invited Council members to join this task group focused on finding solutions for hiring qualified staff and retaining staff. The members who will serve on the task group are the three Executive Officers: Chair Kevin Rutherford (Past Parent Representative from Olympia area), Vice-Chair Alicia Phillips (Peter G ECEAP), and Treasurer Jessica Palmer (Rainier Head Start).

POLICY COUNCIL DATES

Jan 4, Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7, & July 12

Meetings will be Thursday nights, 5:30-8, as a videoconference at three sites:

- For Grays Harbor County:
At Washington Elementary Center in Hoquiam
- For Belfair Center:
At Belfair Center
- For Shelton Center & Thurston County Centers:
At ESD 113 in Tumwater



Ask your Center Director for more information. Websites: www.esd113.org & www.soundtoharbor.com

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