

## **OKLAHOMA PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOL READINESS**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Department of Libraries

1:00 PM

**The agenda was posted at 200 NE 18<sup>th</sup> St, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on Wednesday, September 19, 2018, at 12:36 p.m.**

### **Call to Order**

Natalie Burns, Chair, called the meeting to order 1:09 p.m.

Natalie Burns welcomed new board member designee Audra Haney from the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, designee Jennifer Stepp from Oklahoma State University and designee Joyce Marshall from the Oklahoma State Department of Health who will be assisting Edd Rhoades. Jennifer McKay, who is the new Senior Director of Early Childhood at the State Department of Education, was welcomed. Natalie noted that Noel Tyler is retiring and will be replaced by Melinda Freundt. Rita Echelle will continue to be the designee for Melinda Freundt under the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services.

New OPSR Board Designees were recognized. Audra Haney, Jennifer Stepp, Joyce Marshall and Gina McPherson introduced themselves and described their experience and interest in early childhood. Debra Andersen announced that Lesli Blazer of the Department of Human Services will retire the end of October, thus ending her OPSR board service and recognized Joni Riley, who will attend OPSR meetings as a designee until a replacement for Leslie is named. Meeting guest Jennifer McKay, the Sr. Director of Early Childhood of the State Department of Education also shared the background she brings to her new role. Amy Tate announced that she has taken a position at the George Kaiser Family Foundation and thanked everyone for the privilege to serve the past ten years as an OPSR board member.

Debra provided OPSR staff updates. Megan Scott resigned from OPSR to accept a position as the Development Director at TEEM. Laura Hamilton is now working part time. Gabrielle Jacobi joined OPSR as a Program Coordinator.

### **Roll Call**

The roll was called by Misty Montgomery.

### **Members Present**

Debra Andersen, Blayne Arthur, Natalie Burns, Curtis Calvin (*Designee to Polly Anderson*), Angela Clayton, Joy Culbreath, Marny Dunlap, Rita Echelle (*Designee to Noel Tyler*), Kay Floyd, Kent Gardner, Audra Haney (*Designee to Terri White*), Annette Jacobi, Janet Karner (*Designee to Marcie Mack*), Cindy Koss (*Designee to Joy Hofmeister*), Joyce Marshall (*Designee to Tom Bates*), Gina McPherson (*Designee to Glen Johnson*),

William Lightfoot, Misty Montgomery, Susan McVey, Jessica Ockershauser, Shelly Patterson (*Designee to Rebecca Pasternik-Ikard*), Ray Potts, Sarah Roberts and Jennifer Stepp (*Designee to Stephan Wilson*).

Kent Gardner left at 1:31 pm

Rita Echelle left at 2:30 pm

Sarah Roberts left at 2:43 pm

### **Members Not Present**

Lesli Blazer (*Designee for Ed Lake*), Ann Cameron, Vaughn Clark (*Designee to Deby Snodgrass*), Kathy Cronemiller, Bill Doenges, Melissa McLawhorn Houston, Ryan Posey, Anthony Stafford and Annie Koppel Van Hanken.

### **Staff Present**

Diane Bell, Laura Hamilton, Gabrielle Jacobi, Christopher Lee and Katie Parker.

### **Guests Present**

Jennifer McKay, Jena Nimli, Joni Riley and Amy Tate.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Natalie Burns requested the Board review the minutes from the June 21, 2018 meeting.

*A motion was made by Annette Jacobi to accept the June 21, 2018 minutes. Susan McVey seconded the motion. Audra Haney and Joyce Marshall abstained. The motion passed.*

### **OPSR Financial Review**

Susan McVey presented the financials on behalf of the Finance and Operations Committee. The budget to actuals document reflected the organization's budget is on track. Susan reminded members of the funds DHS approved to be carried over from the previous fiscal year to support the development of the OPSR website. The combined budget provided was approved during the June, 2018 OPSR Board meeting.

### **First Quarter Board Meeting: Strategic Planning**

Debra Andersen reviewed the annual cadence of OPSR board meetings, reviewed the legislative responsibilities of the OPSR Board and guided members through focus of the First Quarter meeting which is on planning for the current fiscal year. Debra reinforced how critical strategic planning has been in the last two years in particular due to budget cuts. The Board must remain focused on important systems changing work in Oklahoma while making sure to fulfill all the mandates required by the state.

- School Readiness Pathway Strategic Plan Development - OPSR's Pathway to school readiness for all Oklahoma children
  - Diane Bell staffs the Needs Assessment workgroup that is meeting to identify Oklahoma specific indicators for the pathway.
  - Related to Goal One: Parents and Children are connected to health services, Shelly Patterson reported on the OHCA Public Hearing seeking input in rulemaking to meet new work/community engagement requirement under House Bill 2932. The OCHA is mandated to seek a waiver to implement this requirement. Shelly shared barriers for the parents of young

children in particular. Oklahoma will submit a waiver request to the federal government which must be signed by the governor and submitted in October. Currently 14 states have applied for a similar waiver. Diane Bell then shared the indicators and influencers related this goal.

- Related to Goal Two: Children are engaged in high quality early care and learning, the workgroup has finalized indicators on the pathway. Joni Riley shared that the federal government appropriated and increase of \$32 million for Oklahoma childcare. Child care provider rates increased on August 1, 2018. The program is developing a plan to increase the family income eligibility for subsidy benefits.
- In relation to Goal Three: Parents have access to education and support services, the workgroup will continue to identify indicators for this goals.
  - One important component of family education and support are child abuse prevention programs. This summer, OPSR contracted with the OSDH to facilitate community cafés in several communities across the state to gather parent and stakeholder input to help inform the OSDH's child abuse prevention state action plan. From participant feedback, a commonly reported concern was stigma or judgement of parents seeking services and distrust with government supported programs.
- Progress on Project SHINE has occurred in linking data between SoonerStart and Home Visiting records. Additionally, Oklahoma, one of only seven other states, was just awarded a competitive Project HOPE grant, which will focus on equity in early childhood systems. Debra shared that OPSR Board members Curtis Calvin, Shelly Patterson, Marny Dunlap and Audra Haney are members of the Project HOPE team.
- 2019 Legislative/Political Will Building
  - Interim Studies: October 3, 2018, Data Linking, requested by Rep. Monroe Nichols. Debra shared that OPSR has taken the lead in securing experts for this study. October 24, 2018, Child Care Subsidy, requested by Rep. Todd Russ.
  - Debra suggested OPSR develop a transition plan for the incoming governor and asked for thoughts and recommendations from the Board as that is compiled. Some recommendations mentioned were having a designated OPSR Governor's Liaison, building a formal Early Childhood Agenda, as well as continuing initiatives such as the Preschool Development Grant and Early Childhood Integrated Data Systems.

### **Preschool Development Grant**

Debra Andersen shared that the Preschool Development Grant is a federal grant opportunity that aligns with the goals of OPSR Act of 2003. This grant will be focused on a systems improvement and will not support direct services. The Governor designated OPSR to take the lead on Oklahoma's grant application. Debra presented on the Preschool Development Grant requirements. The amount available to request ranges from \$500,000 to \$15 million with the average award estimated to be \$6 million. The grant will support much of the work OPSR and partners are doing in the state. This grant will focus on improving the overall quality of the system, focused on supporting the

development of low-income and disadvantaged children and supporting their transition to school. A stakeholder meeting will be held to obtain input for the grant.

### **Logo, Branding and Website Update**

Katie Parker presented the new logo and branding. The OPSR website is currently in development with an anticipated launch date of December, 2018.

Debra Andersen shared that the OPSR Foundation has approved nametags and generic business cards for all of the board members.

### **Executive Director Report**

Debra Andersen referenced her written report. Board Members reviewed the document and did not have any questions.

### **Chairperson Comments**

No comments

### **Announcements**

- Interim Study on Data Linking, October 3, 2018 10:30 am – 12:00 pm, Room 432A
- Preschool Development Grant Stakeholder Meeting September 28, 2018, Metro Tech, Oklahoma City, OK
- Early Childhood Research Symposium, January 17, 2019
- Ray Potts shared that the Potts Family Foundation is working with leaders of the chamber of commerce through a new grant to increase outreach to Oklahoma's business community regarding the importance of early childhood education funding.
- Cindy Koss shared that on October 2 the State Department of Education will broadcast via Facebook their "It Starts Here: Trauma-Informed Instruction" summit. On October 4 and 5, the State Department will hold an Early Childhood conference, Purposeful Play. There will be 900 teachers, principals, head start teachers, and childcare providers over the two days. A parent guide will also soon be released on the SDE website for grades preschool through second. Lastly, Superintendent Hofmeister will attend the NEAYC conference in Mississippi to present on early childhood in Oklahoma.
- Shelly Patterson shared that in October and November the Oklahoma Health Care Authority will hold Regional Strategic Planning Forums open to the public. Registration will be available and the meetings will be held across the state.

### **New Business**

Natalie Burns asked for any new business. No new business.

### **Adjourn**

Natalie Burns declared that the meeting be adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

### **Next Meeting:**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in Oklahoma City.