

OKLAHOMA PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOL READINESS

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Department of Libraries

1:00 p.m.

The agenda was posted at 421 NW 13th St, Colcord Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on December 4th 2019 at 10:54am.

Call to Order and Welcome

Annette Jacobi called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Annette and Debra Andersen thanked Dr. Rhoades and Ann Cameron for their years of service and leadership to OPSR. Ann, who could not be in person, shared through Kathy Cronemiller that she is grateful for the work of OPSR and that great things are happening.

Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Angie Clayton called the roll.

***Approval of Minutes**

Kathy motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Anthony Stafford. Annie Van Hanken, Melinda Freundt, Natalie Burns and Kent Gardner abstained. The motion passed.

OPSR Financials

Will Lightfoot presented the financials. The first document is the DHS contract to UCO FY2020 Expenditures. There is a recent change in this document as it now will show encumbrances as a line item to show a better picture of what is planned to be spent. The second document was the OKFutures Grant Budget, which Will reminded the Board that the Foundation oversees this. OPSR is currently in the process of submitting a no cost extension.

Advocacy and Communications Solutions (ACS) Presentation

One of the activities of OKFutures is to develop strategies for family engagement as there is strong interest from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to reach families that are hard to reach and typically miss out on programs and services. In order to complete this activity, OPSR contracted with Advocacy and Communications Solutions (ACS) to develop a strategy and messaging. Their research concluded that healthcare and child care providers are the most trusted sources of information, while elected and business officials are the least. There are significant gaps in rural areas, so this was a target population. ACS discovered that messages should be positive, communicate to all family members, and share the value of early childhood education.

Dr. Marny Dunlap shared that she liked the developed messages, but that they were lengthy. ACS said this was intentional so organizations can use snippets of desired messages. Several members of the Board questioned why there is a lack of awareness about the importance of early childhood and ACS informed the Board that this is not unique to Oklahoma. They stated that policy makers are good at responding to a crisis, but for programs that are doing okay, the value slips because we operate on the status quo. Gina McPherson shared that lack of awareness is also a consistency issue because the field of early childhood is constantly changing as new research, participants, and champions evolve.

Reach Out and Read Presentation

Marny and Shelley Patterson presented on Reach Out and Read (ROR), which trains pediatricians and providers to have a literacy rich waiting environment and give every child a new book at their well child

visit. Oklahoma's ROR program is unique because of a new partnership with Oklahoma Health Care Authority and OU Pediatrics that leverages CHIP funding to fund ROR and embed developmental screenings into the process. New data is showing that this partnership has been successful to recruit new sites and ROR sites do more developmental screenings than non-ROR sites.

Nikki Shearman, of the national ROR office in Boston, was present and shared that Oklahoma is one of the top ROR affiliates.

OPSR Foundation Report

Kathy shared that Annie will be serving as OPSR Foundation President.

OKFutures Grant Updates

Debra shared several accomplishments of the grant, including an accepted Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan, a Budget and Policy Analysis by the Oklahoma Policy Institute, a statewide professional development conference, a draft plan for an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS), early childhood core messages and communications strategy, and a Cost of Care Study in collaboration with RAND.

Angela Duckett shared highlights of the eight site professional development conference that occurred on November 2. There were four different programs offered, six tribal sponsors, and 1,005 registrants.

Debra informed the Board that the PDG renewal application was submitted. Oklahoma was eligible to apply for \$12.5 million and OPSR built the narrative upon the data and planning that occurred with our partners in 2019.

Executive Director's Report

Debra reminded the Board that the Annual Report was published November 1.

***2020 Meeting Dates**

Annette shared the 2020 meeting dates with the Board and that they will be the third Thursday of January, April, July and October.

Annie motioned to approve the dates, seconded by Marny. The motion passed by acclamation.

Chairperson Comments

Annette said it has been a delight to work with all of us and gave kudos to the staff for a whirlwind of a year. She thanked the Board for their contributions to the grant and the meeting's presenters.

Announcements

Debra told the Board that the Urban Institute will be in Oklahoma City to host a briefing in our Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan on January 27. Paul Shinn will also be sharing results from the Oklahoma Policy Institute's Budget and Policy Analysis.

New Business

Kathy reminded the Board that it is extremely beneficial and appreciated to have all Board Members donate to the Foundation.

Adjourn

Annette adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.