

New Orleans Early Education Network (NOEEN) Steering Committee
8300 Earhart Blvd. New Orleans, LA 70118
Meeting Minutes for November 19th, 2019

Committee Members in Attendance: Kate Mehok, Emily Wolff, Joyce Ridgeway, Joy Mitchell, Rhonda Taylor, Jen Roberts, Kristi Givens, Thelma French, Carole Elliot

Committee Members Absent: Keith Liederman, Maria Blanco, Thomas Lambert

Community Members in Attendance: Emily Madeira, Aimee Grainer, Anna Williamson, Jillian Delos Rios, Gabby Izzo

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. At 11:42 am Jen Roberts called the meeting to order.

II. READY START NETWORK UPDATES

- a. Jen Roberts and Aimee Grainer provided an overview of network updates.
- i. **Incorporation of new bylaws**
 - 1. Committee updated membership per bylaws.
 - 2. Reminders given to Committee to nominate Vice Chair.
 - ii. **Sub-Committee update**
 - 1. NOEEN Sub-Committees (enrollment, funding and quality) will be given the opportunity to present work to-date in January.
 - iii. **Quarterly Convening**
 - 1. NOEEN's Quarterly Convening and Honor Roll breakfast will take place on December 10th at 9 AM. The location is TBD.
 - iv. **Advocacy, Funding, Initiatives Update**
 - 1. NOEEN launched its second round of the ECHO Fund.
 - v. **City Seats**
 - 1. City Council is expected to communicate an increase in City Seats funding by Wednesday 11/20.
 - vi. **CCAP**
 - 1. Kenny Francis has been working with stakeholders to advocate for an increase in CCAP rates in order to improve utilization.
 - vii. **Judy Watts Child Advocacy Center**
 - 1. Agenda for Children launched the Judy Watts Child Advocacy Center, headed by Teresa Falgoust and Kenny Francis.
 - viii. **LENA Research Study w/ University of Virginia**
 - 1. LENA, a literacy and language study being conducted by the University of Virginia, will potentially partner with NOEEN. The study has already been conducted to Jefferson and Rapides.

ix. Pritzker Grant

1. NOEEN has been invited to complete a Pritzker grant. The grant is a maximum of 300,000 over a three-year period.

x. Early Childhood Opportunity Fund (ECHO) Fund

1. NOEEN is currently reviewing applications for the second round of ECHO grant funding.
2. NOEEN is launching a mini-round of ECHO grants for parishes outside of Orleans in early December.

xi. LDE Systems Thinking 2.0 Training

1. NOEEN will be participating in the LDE Systems Thinking 2.0 Training from December 3rd-4th in Baton Rouge.

III. COORDINATED ENROLLMENT & FUNDING REQUEST

a. Super App

- i. LA4 LEAs will submit a Super App, however NOEEN will provide coordinated responses. Responses will be provided in advance of Feb. 7.

b. Coordinated Funding

- i. Aimee Grainer provided an overview of the coordinated funding process regarding timeline, application elements and evaluation process.
- ii. Sean Perkins presented on the status of PK4 seats in Orleans parish.
 1. Geographic analysis concludes there remains an excess of seats in Uptown, Mid-City, Central City; shortage in East, West Bank.
 2. There will be a net decrease in seats requested in 20-21 CFR.
 3. Committee discussed issues with children getting into programs and the changes to the OneApp for this school year.

iii. CFR - LA 4 & Tuition Seats

1. For LA 4 & tuition seats, decisions are made based on the following criteria: parent's needs, demand, and quality.
2. Committee member Joy Mitchell proposed we advocate to the state for high quality Type III centers to have the opportunity to apply for LA4 seats.
3. Committee expressed concerns over PEG funding. Funding will transfer to NSECD, presenting operating difficulty for centers.

iv. CFR – NSECD Seats

1. No new requests NSECD seats were approved for the 20-21 CFR. The LDE is not currently approving additional seats for NSECD.
2. NOEEN and LDE discussed prioritizing PEG sites to receive NSECD in the 20-21 school year.
3. Committee expressed concerns over alleged delay in payments for NSECD seats. Payment schedule is a perceived barrier. NOEEN will communicate frustrations to LDE.

4. Thelma French expressed concern over CFR decision-making timeline for 2019-2020.

v. Late Recommended Changes

1. ReNEW CMO: Requested to spread inclusion rooms across sites.
2. LA4 operators facing non-renewal:
 - a. James A. Craig
 - b. James M. Singleton
3. Committee moved to accept all applicants' placement on the OneApp for selection by families; postpone allocation decisions.
4. Committee to review performance data for each site in advance of final allocation decision.

I. COORDINATED ENROLLMENT

- a. K-12 OneApp launches November 22nd with deadline of January 31st, 2020. The ECE deadline will differ and is TBA. OneApp will feature several UI updates.
- b. Currently, there are 151 open seats across funding sources, grades and zip codes. 81% of open seats are PK4. On average, there is 1 open B-2 seat per zip.

II. COORDIANATED OBSERVATIONS & SUPPORT

- a. NOEEN is about 71% complete coordinated observations for Fall 2019.
- b. The network has improved in every domain; on track with quality state-wide.

III. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 1:18 pm.

Action Items

- **Action Item No. 1:** On the motion of French and seconded by Ridgeway, the Committee adopted the agenda for the meeting.
- **Action Item No. 2:** On the motion of Mehok and seconded by French, the Committee moved to adopt the updated bylaw membership.
- **Action Item No. 3:** On the motion of French and seconded by Elliot, the Committee moved to approve LA4 choices for the 20-21 OneApp. Mehok abstained.
- **Action Item No. 4:** On the motion of French and seconded by Mehok, the Committee moved to approve NSECD choices for the 20-21 OneApp. Mitchell abstained.
- **Action Item No. 5:** On the motion of French and seconded by Givens, the Committee moved to approve tuition choices for the 20-21 OneApp. Mehok abstained from voting.
- **Action Item No. 7:** On the motion of French and seconded by Mehok, the Committee moved to approve Late Recommendation 1.
- **Action Item No. 8:** On the motion of French and seconded by Mehok, the Committee moved to approve Late Recommendation 2. Ridgeway abstained.