



RI Family Engagement Advisory Council

Hosted by RI Parent Information Network (RIPIN)
1210 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI

The mission of the RI Family Engagement Advisory Council (FEAC) is to bring the voice of families to state leaders and school districts regarding matters of engagement policies and best practices. Families, educators, and communities will work in partnership and promote this knowledge to improve educational outcomes for all students.

Meeting Minutes 3.16.16

Welcome & Introductions

Meeting opened at 6:10 p.m.

Attendees: Bill Cotton, Maria Camarena, Stephanie Enos, and Geraldine McPhee

Absent: Diane Tourangeau

Lead by: Geraldine McPhee

Quorum Present: Yes

News / Events

Federal

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) has been reauthorized. President Obama signed into law the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) on December 10, 2015. This will be something for the committee to watch, as the Federal government, States and Districts transition to the new requirements. Areas to watch include: Title I, 21st Century Programming and through Family Engagement Program Centers.

US ED is posting resources to help people learn more and stay apprised of the latest information at www.ed.gov/essa, including:

- a link to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- a link to FAQs on Transitioning to ESSA
- links to Key ESSA resources, and
- the ability to sign up for ESSA updates from US ED

State

- Chanthy Del Rosario has joined the RI Department of Education on the Commissioner's staff. Her focus is on family and community engagement. Chanthy has been invited to come to a future meeting to talk about her role and her work at RIDE.
- Diploma System Community Meetings – Please consider attending yourself and spread the word to others. Flyers shared at the meeting for distribution, and through email. These community events are set for:

Monday, March 21st Northern RI Community Conversation, Smithfield High School, 6:00pm

Tuesday, March 22nd Southern RI Community Conversation, North Kingstown High School, 6:00pm

Wednesday, March 23rd *Newport County Community Conversation*, Middletown High School, 6:00pm

Thursday, March 24th *Providence County Community Conversation*, RI Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, Lower Level auditorium, 6:00pm

<http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/RIPublicSchools/DiplomaSystem.aspx>

- Geraldine shared that the State Children’s Cabinet is working to align State spending around its work with children.

Local

No news at this time.

Updates from the Governor’s Office

- Geraldine continues to work with Catherine Gering at the Governor’s Office, to secure appointments for the current members. Ms. Gering authorized the restart of the committee, and confirmed meetings can be held as long a quorum of current members is available at the meeting. (With five members, the current quorum is three).
- The committee has been asked to work together with the Governor’s Office to recruit members for consideration and appointment. Geraldine has created a membership outreach flyer to support these efforts.
- The Governor’s Office is reaching out directly to the Department of Health for a new committee member. The committee brainstormed outreach ideas and people to consider for direct recruitment as well. All candidates must submit their application directly to the Governor’s Office for consideration.

Election of Interim Officers

A quorum was present, and the following individuals were voted into interim roles:

- Bill Cotton, Interim Chair
- Geraldine McPhee, Interim Vice Chair
- Maria Camerena, Interim Treasurer
- Stephanie Enos, Interim Secretary

As there are no committee assets at this time, Maria will work with Geraldine on membership recruitment and support.

Committee Work

Communication and Public Relations

- Membership recruiting plan in place – Geraldine shared a poster/flyer with the group for consideration. The flyer will be turned into a PDF for posting in districts, forwarding to committee member contacts (COZs, school committees, PTAs), former committee members, the PTA, the Governor’s Office and others who may express interest.
- Geraldine is reaching out to a potential school administrator and others who have previously expressed interest in joining the Committee.
- Maria will speak with the COZs about adding a new person to the group, as she would like to serve as a parent on the committee.

Nominations

- Interim positions filled

Bylaws

- No updates at this time.

Wrap-up

Next Meeting – Meeting Formats/Committee Focus

While the bulk of the work needs to focus on building membership, the committee also recognizes there is a need to discuss action plans and efforts as part of membership recruitment. At the next meeting the committee will discuss ideas for meeting formats and key tasks, aligned with the legislative charge of the committee.

One idea for consideration is quarterly membership meetings with presentations/discussions followed by committee work. Workgroups and officers would meet, as needed, in between to keep the work moving forward.

All ideas are welcome and encouraged. **Members are encouraged to bring their ideas to the next meeting.**

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 19th, 6 to 7:30 p.m., RIPIN

Upcoming Meetings

- Geraldine will send a survey monkey survey to current members to find dates in May and June.

7:30 Adjourn