



RI Family Engagement Advisory Council

Hosted by RI Parent Information Network (RIPIN)
1210 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

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.

September 26, 2017

Welcome & Introductions

Meeting opened at 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: William Cotton, Stephanie Enos, Tonya Glantz, Carol Hall-Walker, Candace Harper, Geraldine McPhee, Ramona Santos, Daniel Smith, Dina Paliotta Toolin, Diane Tourageau, and Lisa Valentine

Absent: Sengkeo Bouchard

Guests: Lori Barden, Jeimy Bakemin, Nikki King, Stella Londono, Tatia Lopez, Olinda Matos

Led by: Ramona Santos and Daniel Smith

Quorum Present: Yes

Minutes: Minutes from the August 22, 2017 special summer meeting were reviewed and approved.

Ramona Santos and Daniel Smith opened the meeting by: thanking the outgoing team for helping with the transition process. Both Ramona Santos and Daniel Smith presented Geraldine McPhee with a Certificate of Appreciation. They then both thanked Bill Cotton and Stephanie Enos for their hard work with the Council over the past year.

Guest Speaker: Keith Catone, Ph.D., Annenberg Institute for School Reform.

Key Talking Points:

- Soon to be Center for Youth and Community Leadership in Education (CYCLE) as part of Roger Williams University (School of Continuing Studies).
- Beyond the Bake Sale (Ann Henderson) - 4 versions of Family-School Partnerships (Partnership, Open Door, Come when we call). Dual capacity-building for schools and families/communities.
- Family Leadership involves families having a meaningful role in decision-making. This leads to positive outcomes. Moving from your/my child to our child through developing relationships and community building. Parents becoming involved based on their child's experience which transitions to advocating for all children.
- Portland and Central Falls case studies: Portland - developing parent leaders; CF - district building up its capacity to support family involvement.

Feedback on Presentation

Lisa Valentine discussed experiences working with school committees. In the case of the Portland study, the Family Engagement Manifesto was written by high school parents and adopted by the school committee. Another consideration is the socio-economic factors that limit parent involvement. She had some suggestions for creating authentic engagement: identifying concerns and fears, providing shared spaces to understand and build relationships so that parents are empowered to make changes.

News / Events

RI's Social and Emotional Standards: Competencies for School and Life Success

Stephanie Enos presented to the group RIDE's proposed Social Emotional Standards.

Key Talking Points:

- Based on CASEL (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning) work.
- Will be presented to the Board next week (Tuesday, Oct. 2nd at 5:00 pm) for endorsement; Zero funded initiative; SEL drives academics, seeking letter for endorsement of SEL standards.
- RIDE Strategic Plan includes SEL; Components of Vision (SEL < Cult. Competence, Dual and World Language); identified as important by teachers, students, employers, align with grad. requirements and improves outcomes (academics, behavior, attitudes).
- Vetted 10 best standards in the country; CASEL hoping to have a 10 year cohort; CASEL wheel includes schools and communities; anchor standards (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making).
- Looking Ahead - online toolbox, identify measures of SEL growth, collaborate with CASEL.

Lisa Valentine motioned to endorse the SEL standards. Candace Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committees

Communications and Public Relations

The flyer has been completed for members to review and provide feedback. Council discussed recruitment efforts and using social media to promote the council and other ways to advertise.

Action Items

RI's Social and Emotional Standards: Competencies for School and Life Success

The council will write a letter of endorsement.

RIDOH

Health Equity Summit to take place in Spring 2018. Carol Hall-Walker suggested that FEAC could work with RIDOH to plan a track or workshop at the summit meeting on Social and Emotional Learning (how to engage parents) as advocates for mental health and well-being.

Upcoming Meetings

The council was asked to consider 2 meetings within the next month: one for Communications and the second on planning for the December 5th meeting.

Wrap-up

Next Meeting

- **December 5th, 6:00 to 7:30 pm at RIPIN – Full Committee.**

Meeting Adjourned 7:30

Minutes as accepted.

Sengkeo M. Bouchard, Secretary