



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.

December 6, 2017

Welcome & Introductions

Meeting opened at 6:08 p.m.

Attendees: Sengkeo Bouchard, Tonya Glantz, Geraldine McPhee, Ramona Santos, Daniel Smith, and Lisa Valentine

Absent: William Cotton, Stephanie Enos, Carol Hall-Walker, Candace Harper, Dina Paliotta Toolin and Diane Tourageau

Guests: Stella Londono and Nelson Rocha

Led by: Ramona Santos

Quorum Present: Yes

Minutes: Minutes from the September 26, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Lisa Valentine suggested adding a signature line and minutes as accepted. The council agreed with the suggestions.

Lisa Valentine motioned to approve the minutes; Tonya Glantz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ramona Santos opened the meeting by introducing and thanking the guests for attending the meeting.

News / Events

Family Engagement Class held at Johnson & Wales University

Tonya Glantz invited the members to a Family Engagement class at the Johnson & Wales University. She will be teaching the class and it will begin on January 14, 2017. It will take place on Friday nights and Saturdays since it's a weekend cohort model. She informed the group that the students taking the class include superintendents and principals and are at the end of a 2 year cohort.

Survey Works

The next survey works meeting will be held on December 11, 2017 at the RIDE building on Westminster Street in Suite 501. The meeting is open to council members to help plan for the January meeting.

Newsletter

A discussion among the council members ensued on the newsletter.

- Use the Secretary of State site for the history of FEAC but overall, the newsletter looked clean and simple.
- The centering threw some people off but there are limitations to the program used for the newsletter template. Microsoft Publisher can be used as an alternative for future newsletters.
- Use the word 'connection' in the newsletter and to try connecting parent groups from different districts.
- Add an article from the Providence Journal covering the topic of Latino kids faring worse in Rhode Island.

Overall, the committee agreed the newsletter looked great and is a huge milestone thanks to the hard work and efforts led by Dina Paliotta Toolin.

Committees

PR/Communications

The council discussed the need for other members to join the committee to give Dina a hand. Lisa Valentine then discussed an outreach committee as a possible subcommittee of the PR/Communications committee, with an objective to go out to promote the council using social media and to form relationships with schools. Geraldine McPhee then discussed the objectives of the PR/Communications committee and would like for Dina Paliotta Toolin to bring the committee's action plan to see where they are currently at in their work.

Other committees

Ramona Santos discussed creating a policy implications subcommittee to foster discussions with parents and partnering with Keith Catone of CYCLE (Center for Youth and Community Leadership in Education) for a funded sponsorship. She mentioned she wanted to have a big family meeting but there was no free childcare available. The council then discussed the possibility of allowing children to attend the meetings as there are no harmful discussions.

Stella Londono suggested surveying parents to gather information for workshops and Geraldine McPhee mentioned the idea of concept sub-meetings out in regional areas such as Pawtucket, Westerly, etc. Stella Londono then mentioned an idea of having parents out for coffee hour and to make the meetings more fun and engaging.

Action Items

2018 Meetings

The proposed meeting dates will be sent out to get feedback:

- March 6, 2018, 6:00 to 7:30 pm
- June 12, 2018, 6:00 to 7:30 pm
- September 25, 2018, 6:00 to 7:30 pm
- December 11, 2018, 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Wrap-up

Next Meeting

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

Meeting Adjourned 7:29